

Part I:

An introduction to Nano-particle particle size using light scattering : Principle & Applications



*David Jacob – PhD Cordouan Technologies
Nantes, le 21 Février 2022*

Nano-Materials & Nanoparticles :

- Promise of major technologic, economic, societal & environmental impacts
- Already in the field And it is just the beginning!



food



Pharma



Cosmetic



Petrol

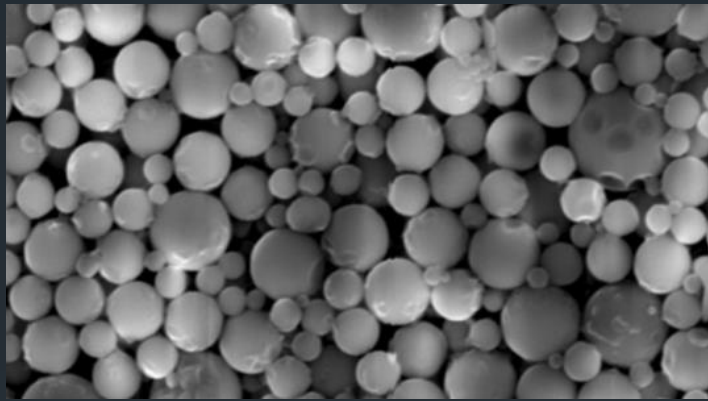


Battery/Automotive



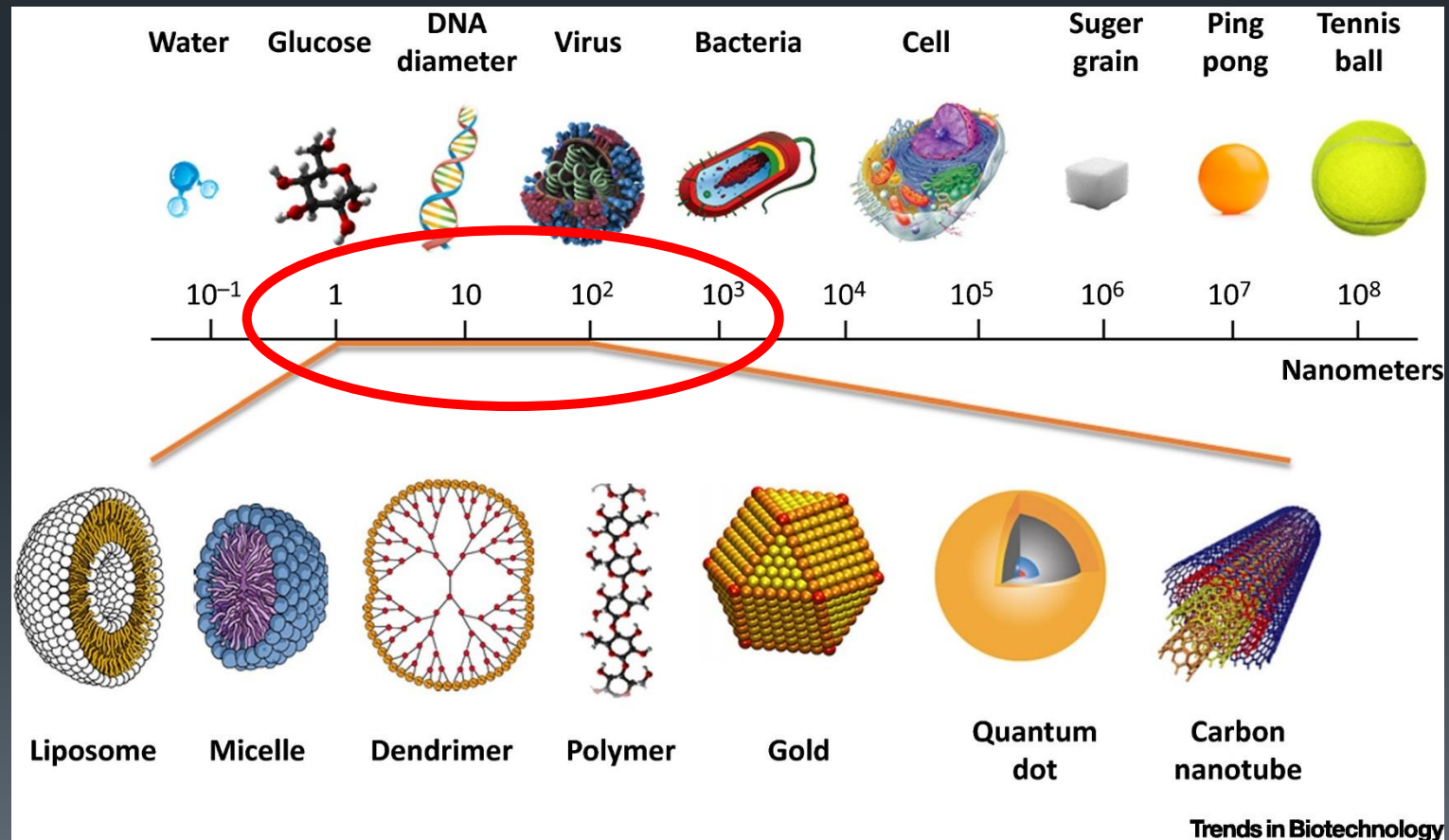
Environment

Nano-Materials & Nanoparticles : definition and types

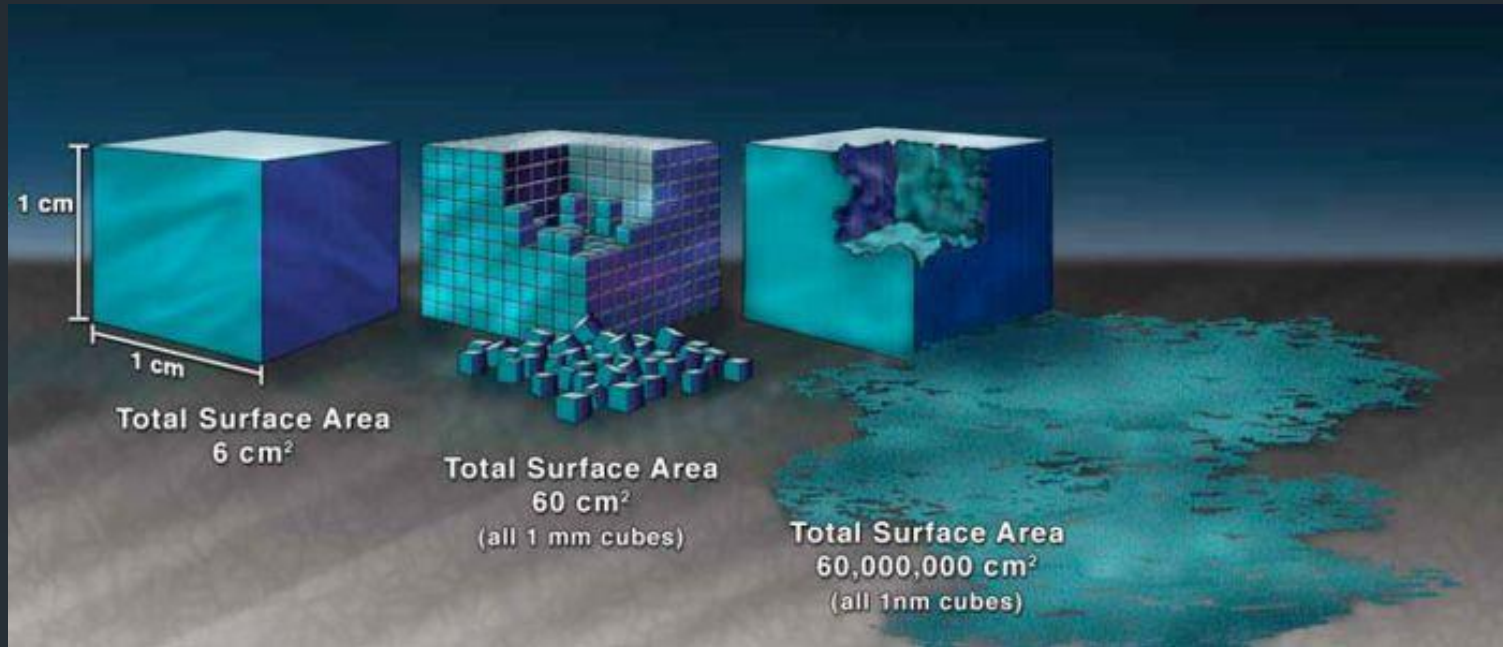


Definition (Europe) : “A **natural, incidental or manufactured** material containing particles, in an unbound state or as an aggregate or as an agglomerate and where, for 50 % or more of the particles in the number size distribution, one or more external dimensions is in the **size range 1 nm - 100 nm**”; But more generally for colloid size ranges from 1 nm to 10 μm !

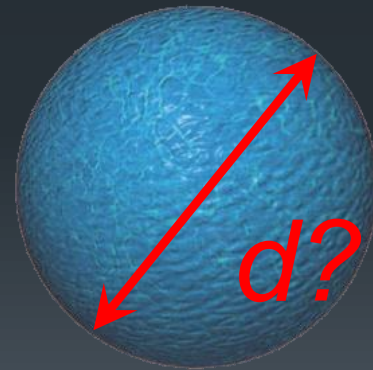
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/nanotech/faq/definition_en.htm



Nano particle size measurement : why is it important?

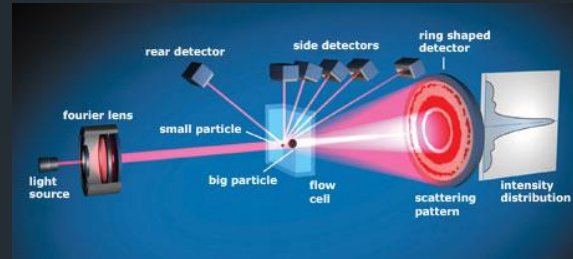


- Related to the specific surface of the particles
- Ability to penetrate membranes or interact with surface
- Aggregation and stability of suspensions
- Fonctionnalisation and self assembly capabilities
- Optical, mechanical and electrical properties

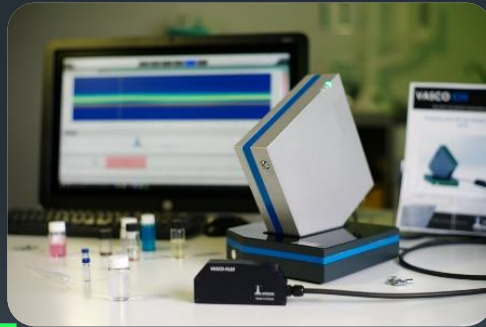


Many mature characterization techniques for particle size

SAXS, TEM



Laser Diffraction
(Static light scattering)



DLS: 1 nm to 10 μm

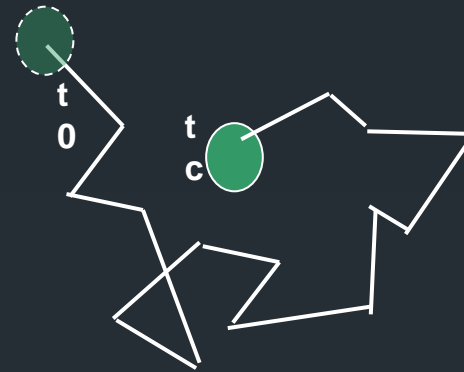
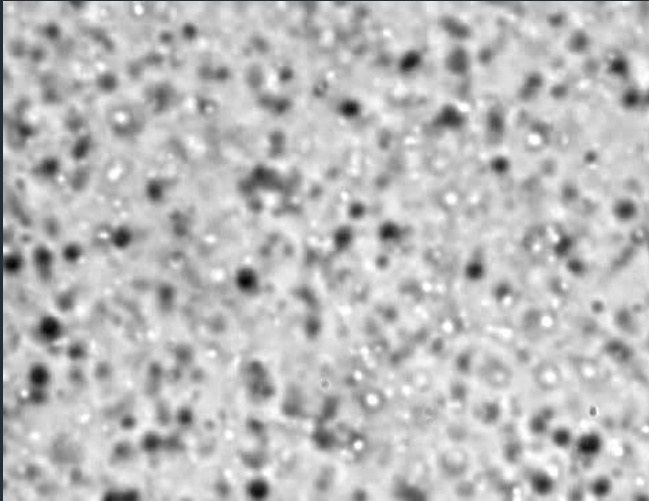


Classical Optical microscopy

4 decades of size range!!!

DLS uses Brownian motion as a signature of particle size

Brownian motion = Random "walk"



Diffusion coefficient

time

$$\langle X^2(t) \rangle \sim 2 D t$$

L. BACHELIER (1901)

NPs:
hard spheres without
interactions

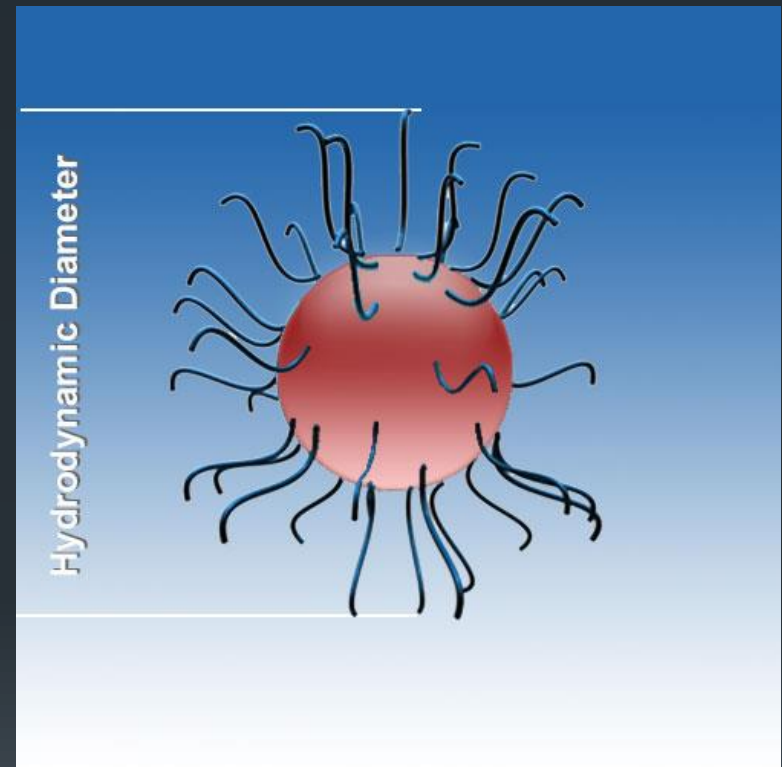
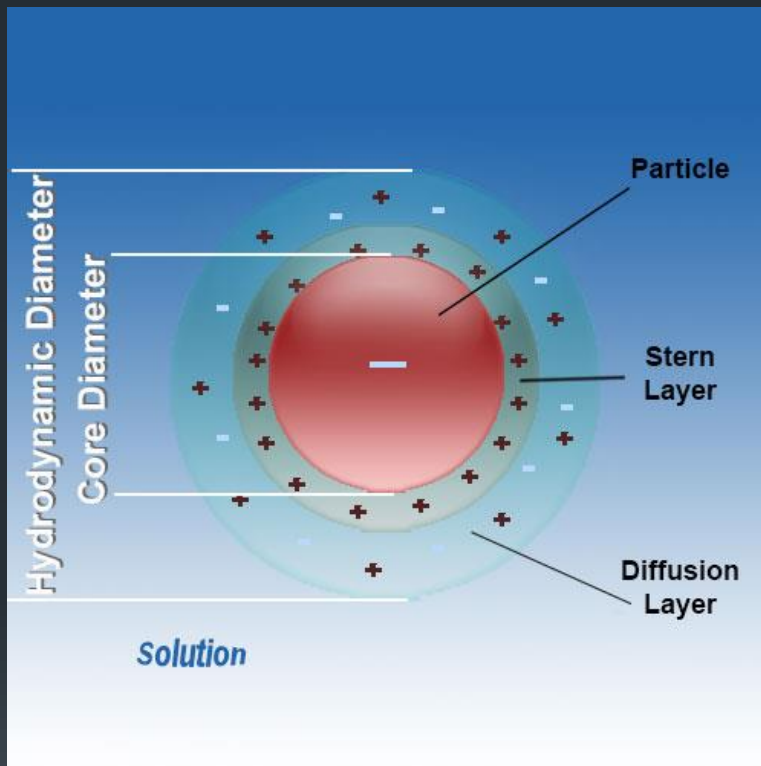
Viscosity Boltzmann Temperature

$$D = \frac{KT}{3\pi\eta \phi_H}$$
$$\phi_H = \frac{KT}{3\pi\eta D}$$

EINSTEIN & Stokes
(1905)

Meaning of hydrodynamic diameter ϕ_H

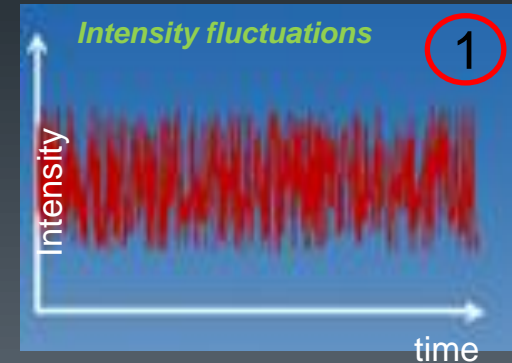
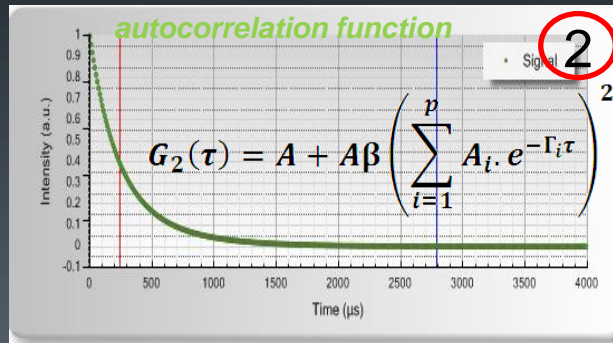
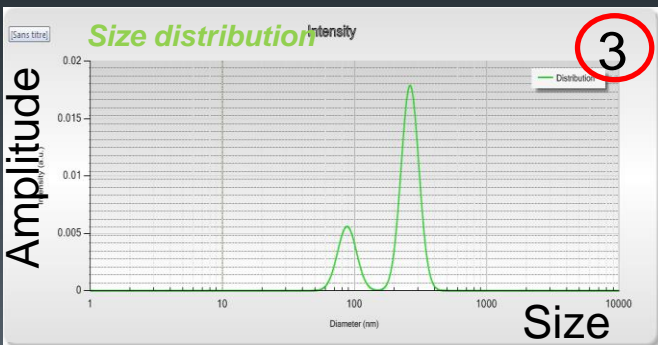
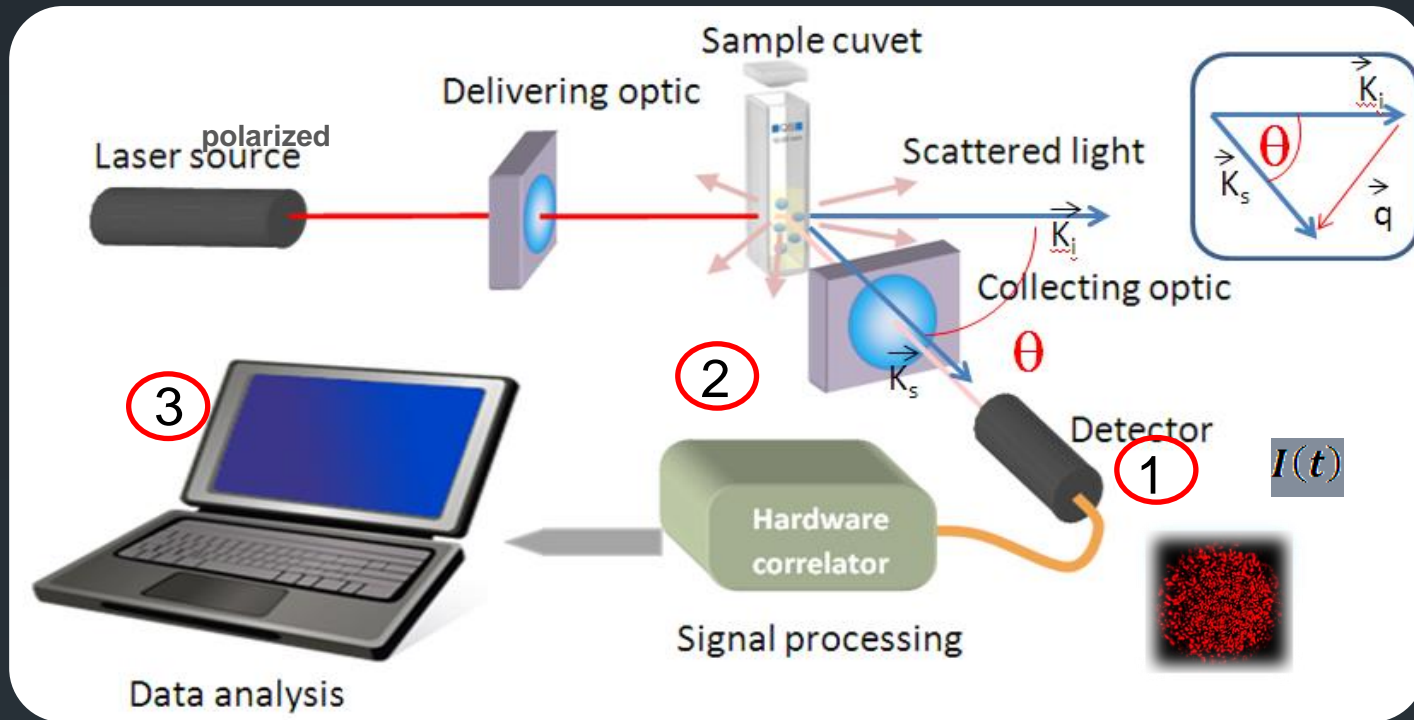
Hydrodynamic diameter = diameter of the particle + double layer thickness



Hydrodynamic diameter is usually > Core diameter (TEM/SAXS) Value by several nm!

DLS measurement principle: 3 steps process

- Measure light scattering fluctuation to probe the Brownian motion



Intensity measurement and correlogram

Considering coherent electromagnetic waves scattered and measured at a specific angle (scattering vector $\mathbf{q}=\mathbf{k}_i-\mathbf{k}_s$) :

Detected field and Intensity :

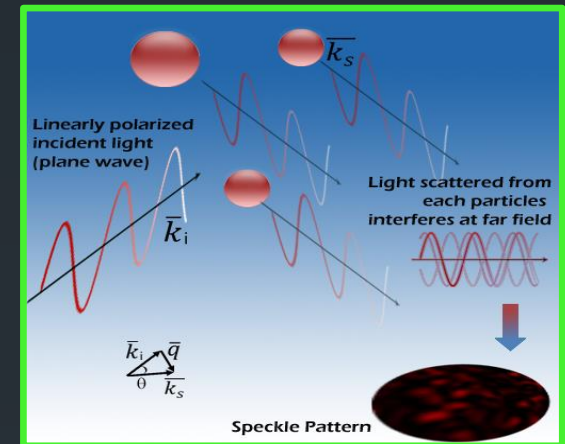
EM field: $E_{\text{tot_detect}}(\omega t)=\sum E_i \exp(i(\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}-\omega t))$

Intensity: $I(t)=E_{\text{tot}}(t) \times E_{\text{tot}}^*(t)$

Autocorrelation :

Field : $g^{(1)}(\tau) = \frac{\langle E^*(t)E(t+\tau) \rangle}{\langle E^2(t) \rangle}$

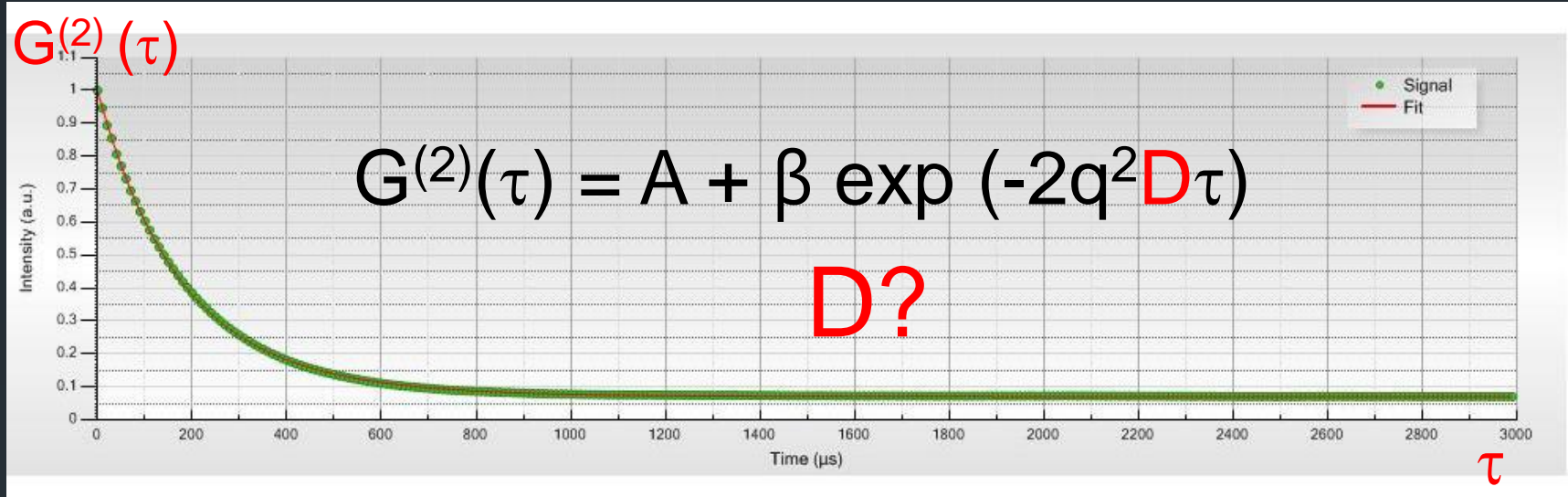
Intensity : $G^{(2)}(\tau) = \frac{\langle I(t) \cdot I(t+\tau) \rangle}{\langle I^2(t) \rangle}$



This leads : $G^{(2)}(\tau) = A + \beta \exp(-2q^2 \mathbf{D}\tau)$

with $q = \frac{4\pi n_0}{\lambda} \sin(\theta/2)$

Inversion problem : finding the best Mathematical fitting of the correlogram?

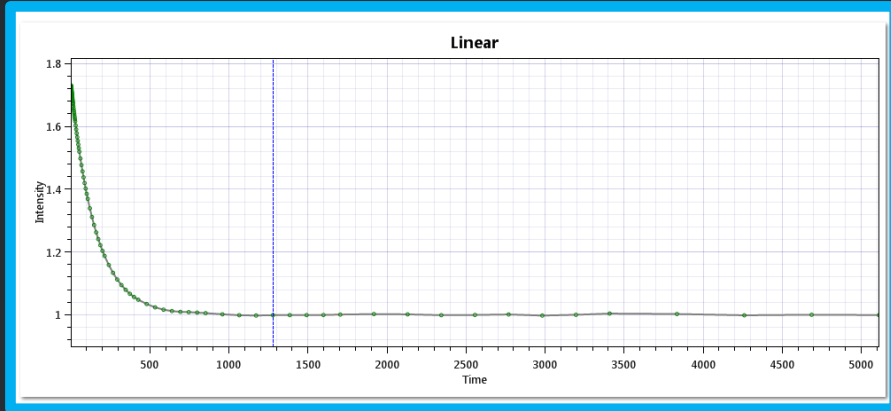


Fit leads to D , and D to the diameter of NPs ϕ_H .

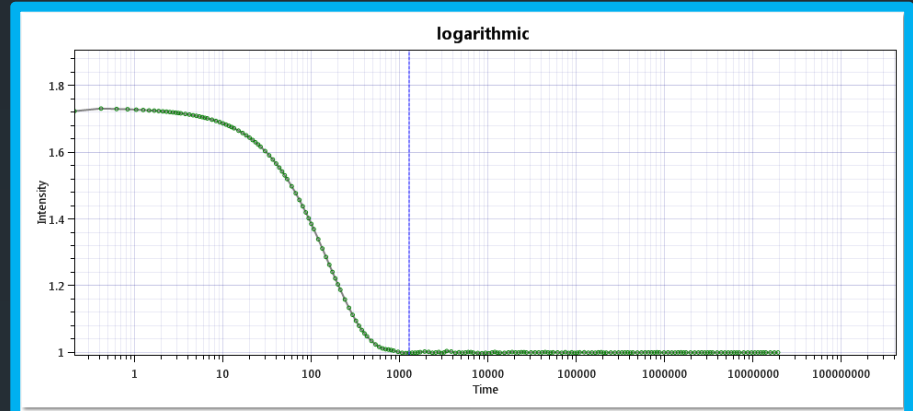
$$D \longrightarrow \phi_H = \frac{KT}{3\pi\eta D}$$

Correlogram representation: Linear vs Logarithmic

linear correlator

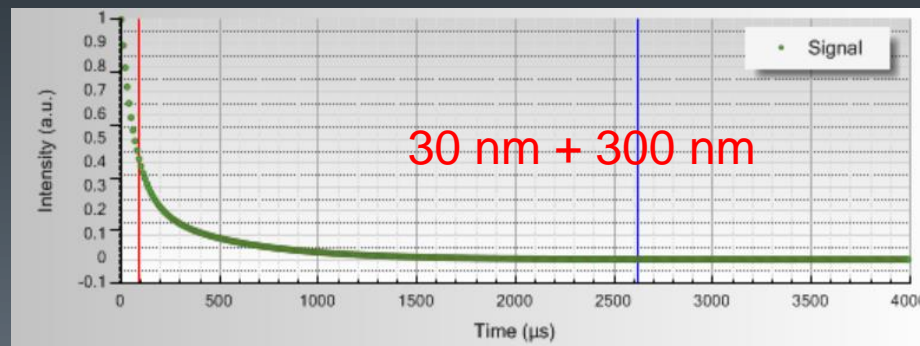
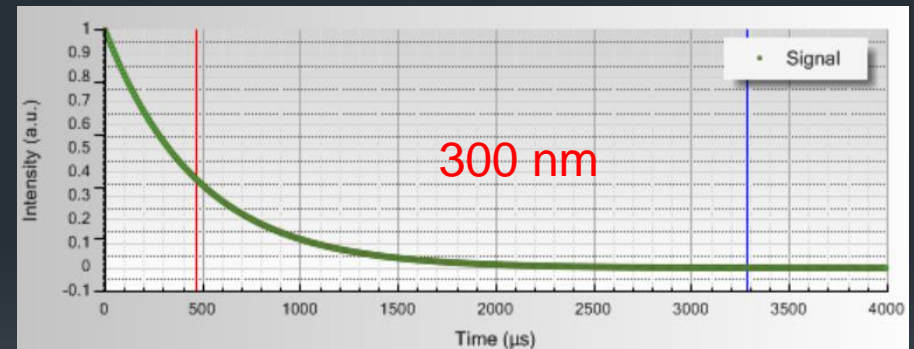
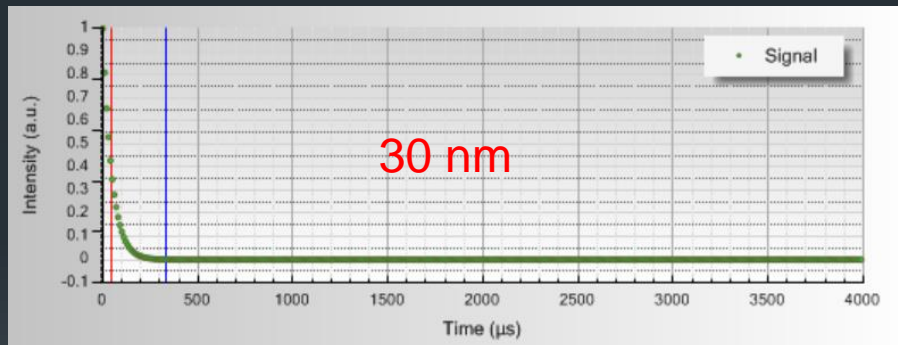


Multi-tau/Log correlator



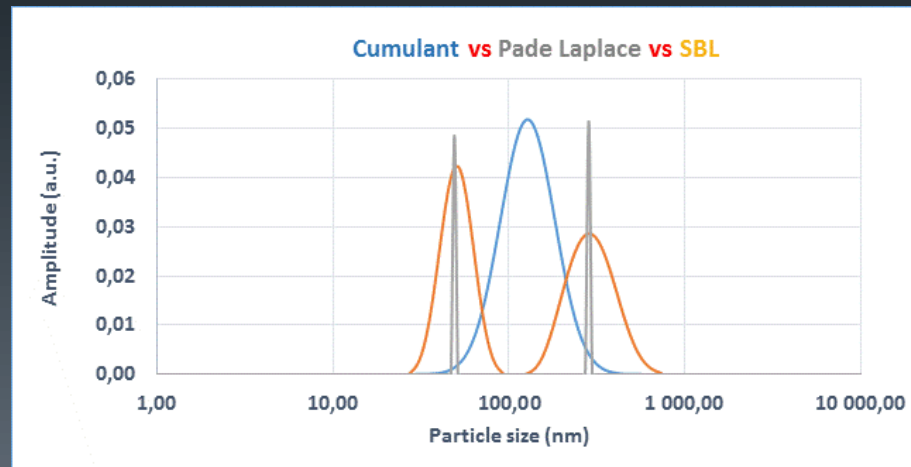
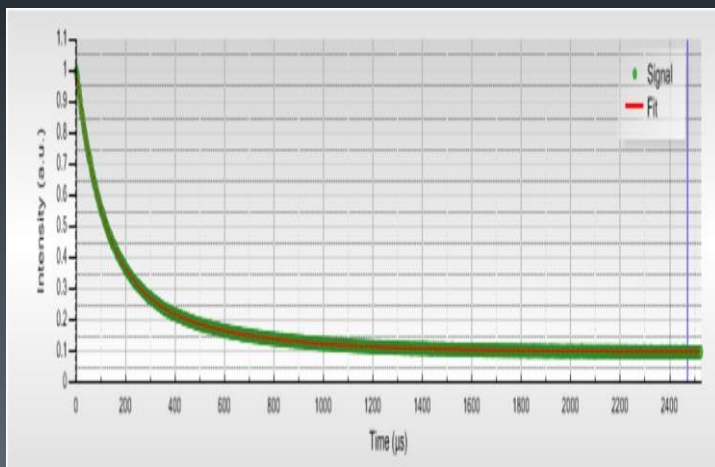
Linear time scale

Logarithmic time scale



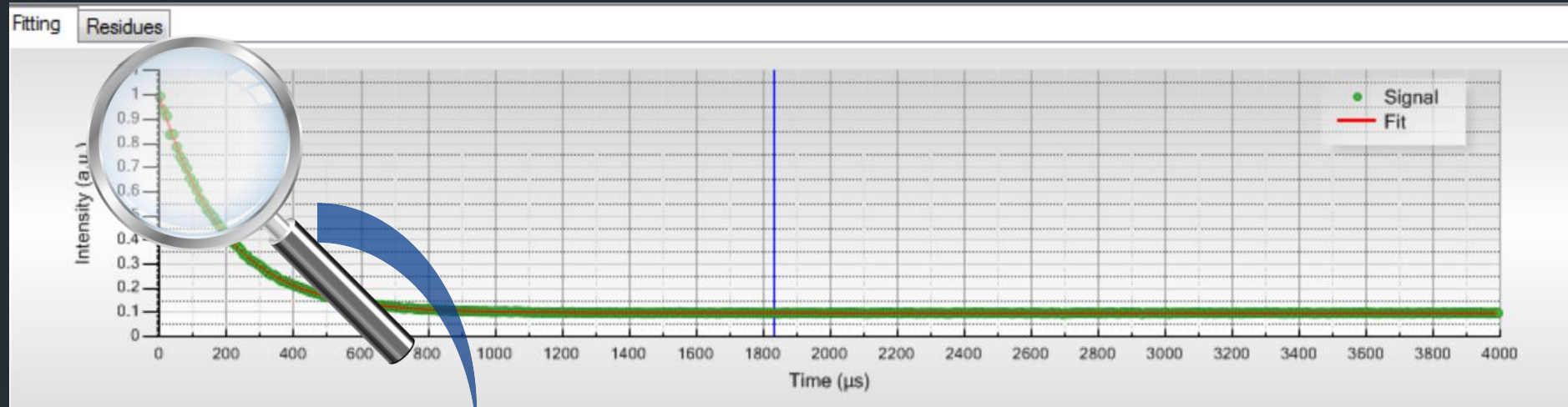
Inversion algorithms for monomodal and polymodal analysis

Algorithm	Number of populations	Distribution	Model
Cumulants	1 Continuous Gaussian with Zavg & PDI	Yes	$G(\tau) = A + B e^{-\Gamma \tau}$ $Z_{avg} = \frac{k_B T q^2}{3\pi \bar{\Gamma}};$ $\text{Distribution width} = Z_{avg} * \sqrt{PDI}$
Pade Laplace	Multi (up to 3) discrete	No	$G(\tau) = A + \sum_{i=1}^{250} B_i e^{-\Gamma_i \tau}$
SBL	Multi continuous	Yes	$G(\tau) = A + \int_0^{10\mu m} B(z) e^{-\Gamma(z)\tau} dz$

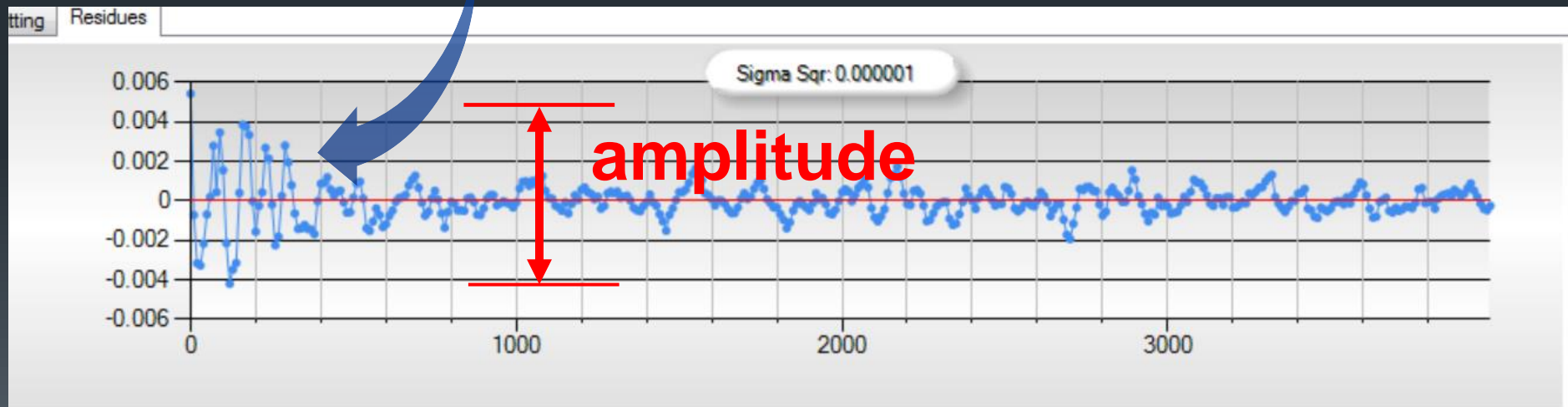


The key point of the results : the FIT and the Residues

FIT= mathematical solution given by the algorithms (red curve)

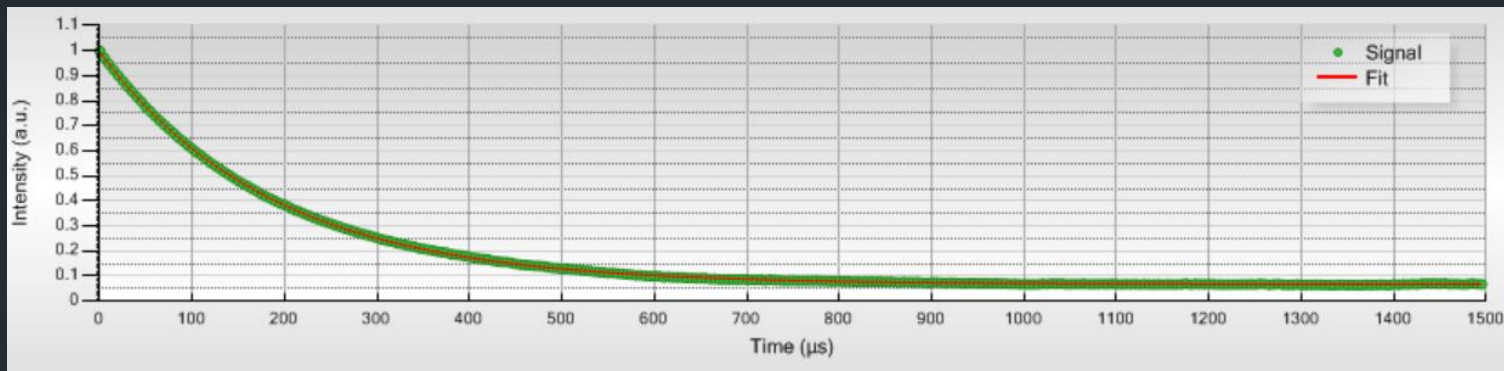


Residues = difference between Fit and measured correlogram

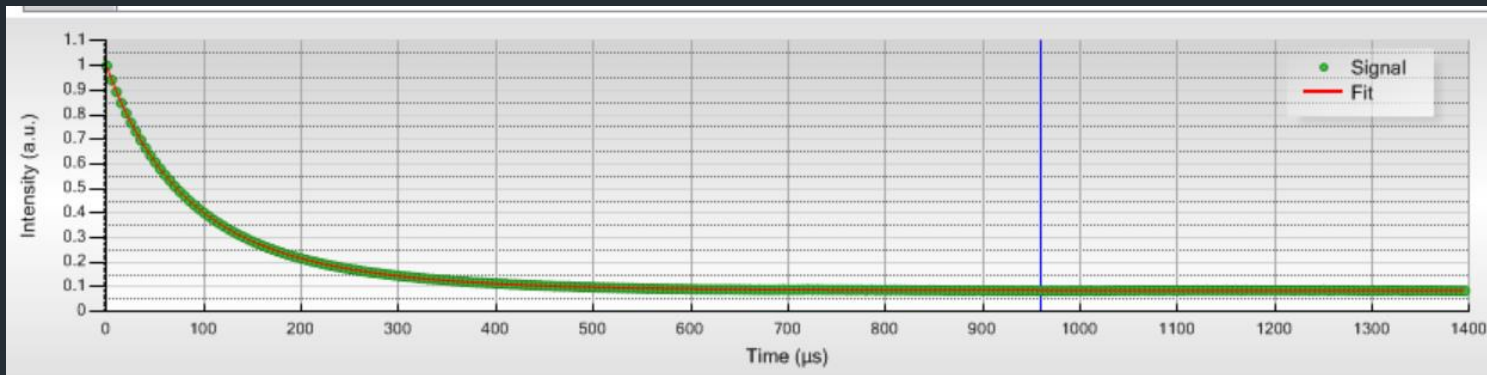


A good fit = Low amplitude ($<0,01$) and statistically distributed residues

Monomodal sample (one population) 100 nm Latex NPs

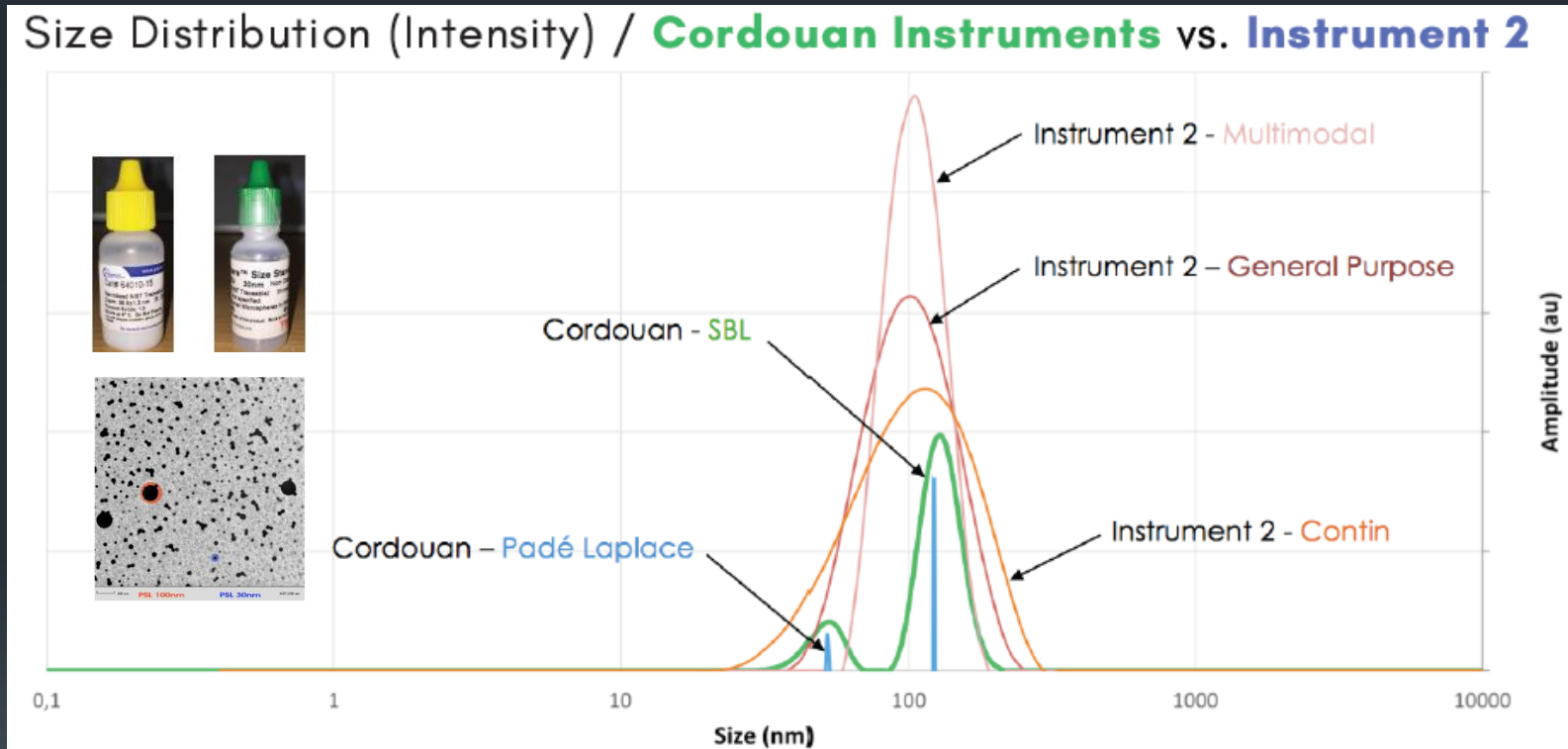


Bi-modal sample (two populations) 30 nm +100 nm Latex NPs mixture



Importance of powerful algorithms for high resolution measurement

30 nm + 100 nm Polystyrene latex (PSL) - unknown ratio, blindfolded sample test



Efficient algorithms make a clear difference for high resolution particle size measurement on complex samples.

Light Scattering: some useful rules of thumb:

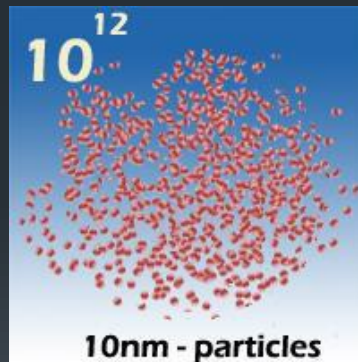
MIE/ Rayleigh Theory

$$I_{\text{Scatt}} \sim K \cdot I_0 \left(\frac{(n^2-1)}{(n^2+2)} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{\phi H^6}{\lambda^4}$$

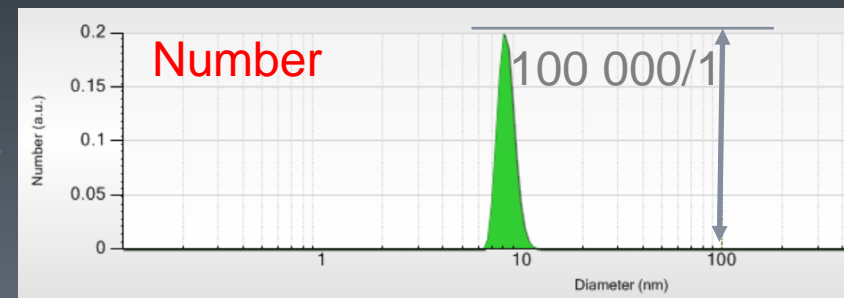
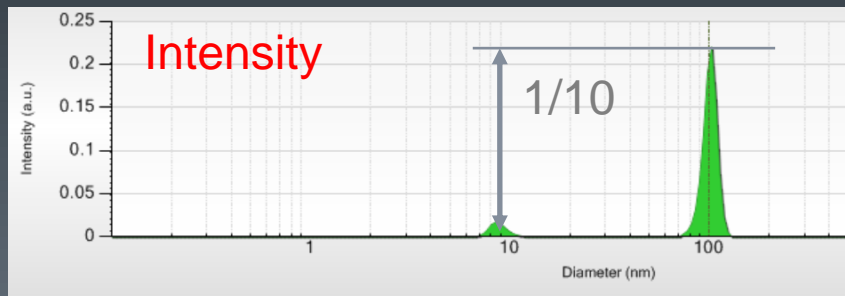
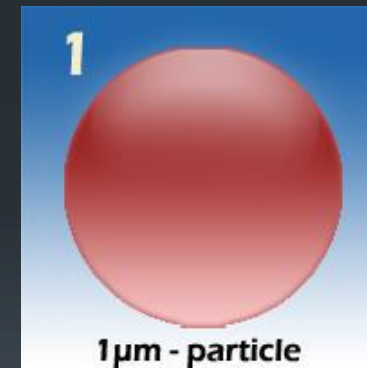
Particle refractive index \rightarrow $\left(\frac{(n^2-1)}{(n^2+2)} \right)^2$ ϕH^6 \rightarrow Laser Wavelength λ^4

Rule of thumb #1: the scattering efficiency (cross section) of the particles is 2.3 times higher for a laser wavelength @532 nm than that of a laser @656 nm

Rule of thumb #2: light intensity scattered by 10nm spherical particles is 10^6 (one million!) times lower than for 100 nm particles,



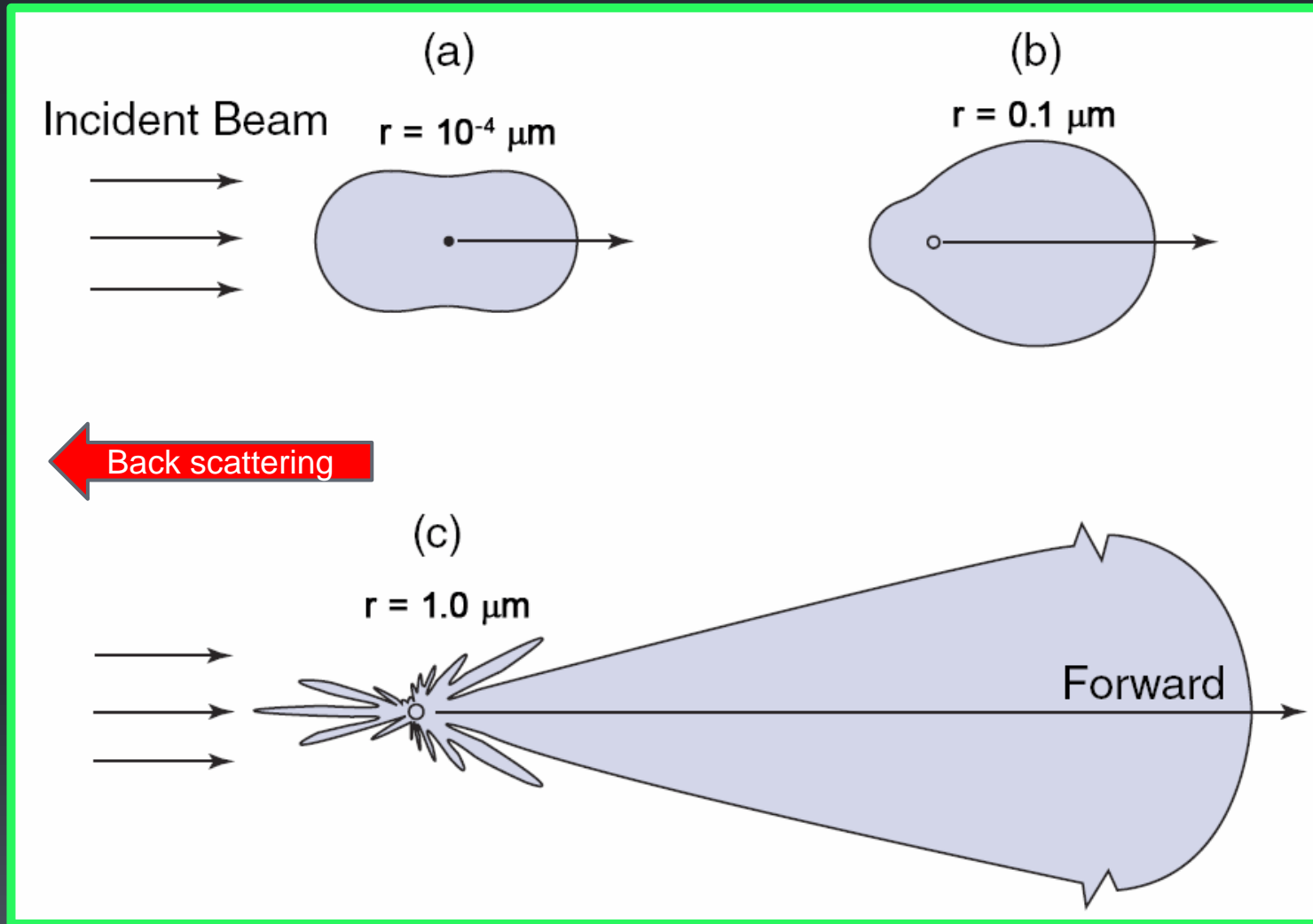
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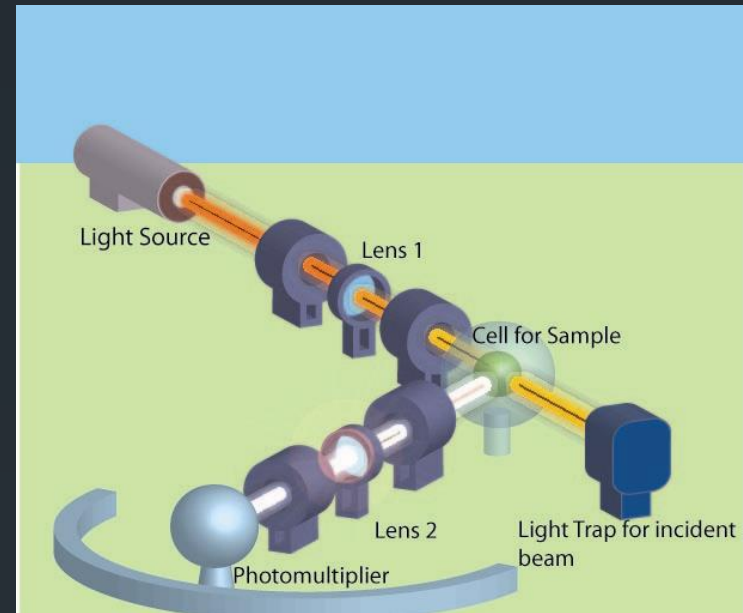
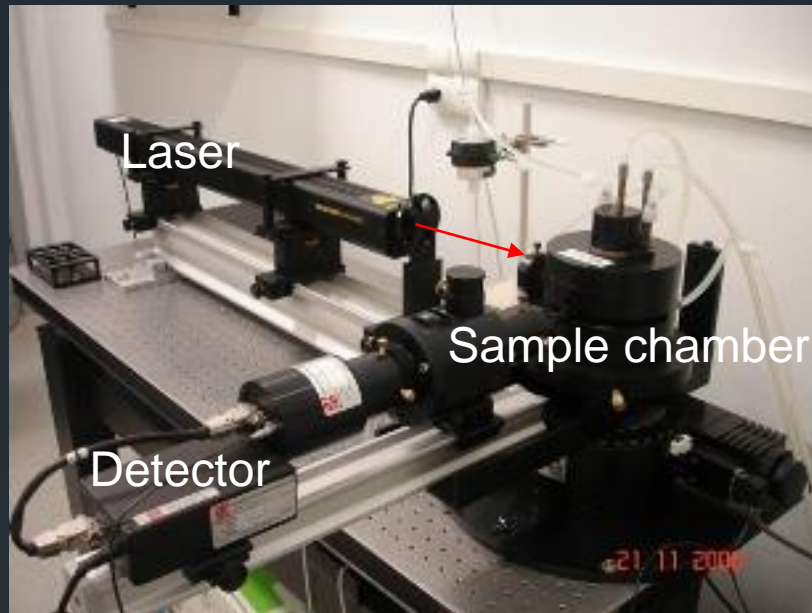
Light Scattering: some useful rules of thumb:

Scattering cross section angular dependence with particle size

19



Backscattering detection prevents from multiple scattering (concentrated samples) and allows to detect small particles in presence of bigger ones



- Adjustable scattering angle
- Several detectors
- Static and Dynamic Light Scattering
- Cross correlation
- Particle size and Molecular weight measurements
- Mainly for diluted samples
- Expensive and large dimensions

Modern DLS equipments :

Disposable cell



Embedded cell



- size range : from 1nm up to 10 μ m
- Mature and standardized method (ISO 13321 (1996) & ISO 22412 (2008))
- Bench top configuration: solutions dedicated to laboratory analysis
- Fast and relatively cheap compare to TEM and SAXS!
- But not fitted for process and in situ measurement!!!

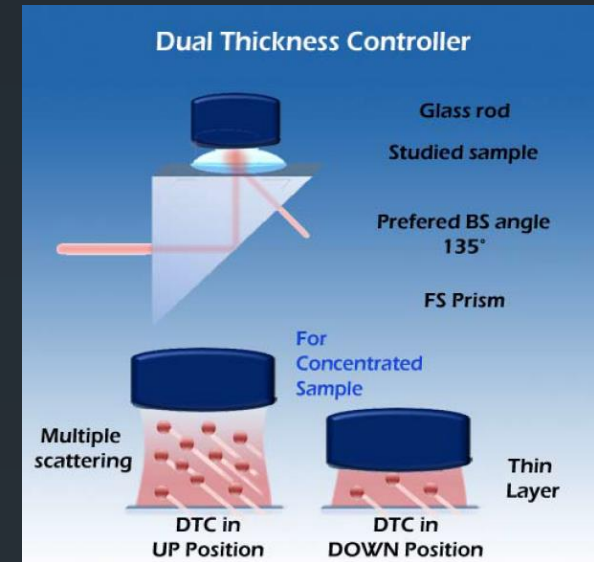
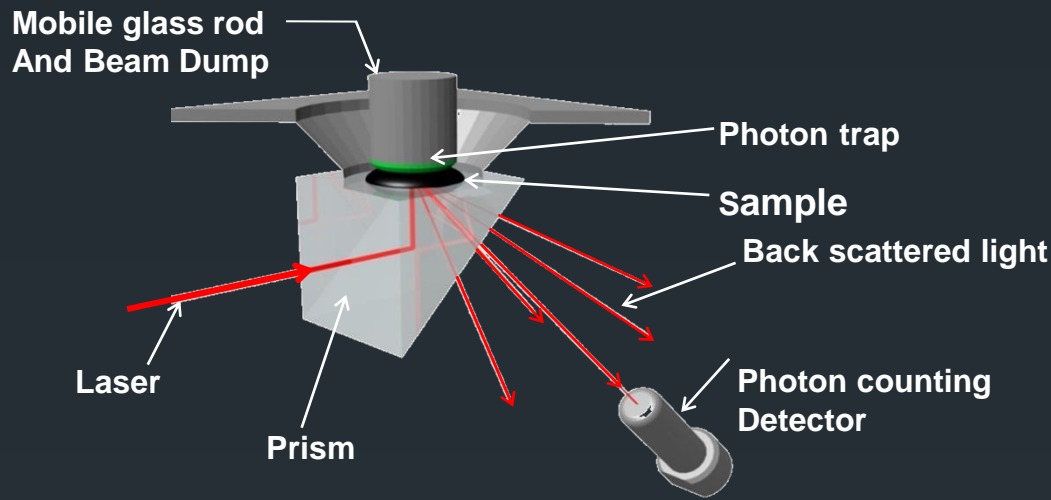
VASCO™



Batch Measurements

Opaque & concentrated media

The thin layer analysis mode



- Innovation in the sample cell configuration: Dual Thickness Control (DTC- patented)
- Thin layer analysis: prevents the sample from local heating and multiple-scattering.
- Backscattering detection (135°): low multiple scattering, better contrast for small particles
- Higher detection efficiency in opaque media.
- Solvent-proof cell measurement without consumables
- Proprietary inversion algorithm allowing efficient size distribution analysis
- Technology transfer from the French Institute of Petroleum

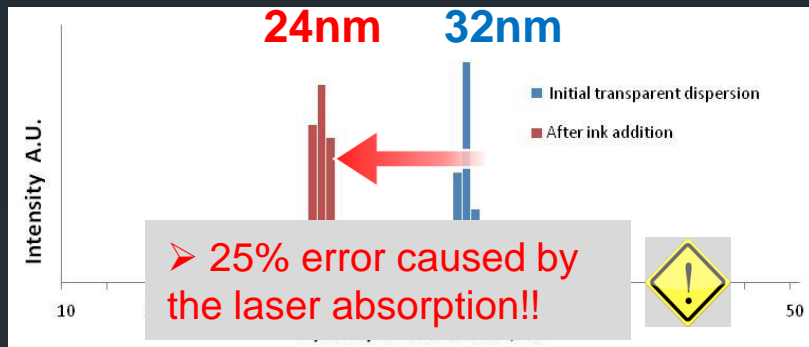


➤ Measurement of dark /opaque media

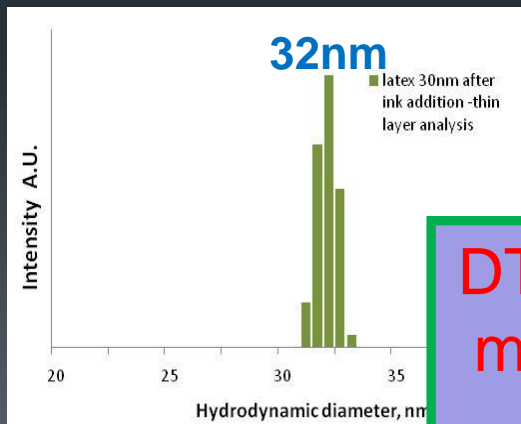


A standard polystyrene latex ($\varnothing=30\text{nm}$ by TEM) is mixed with black soluble ink (10wt%).

Without DTC



With DTC

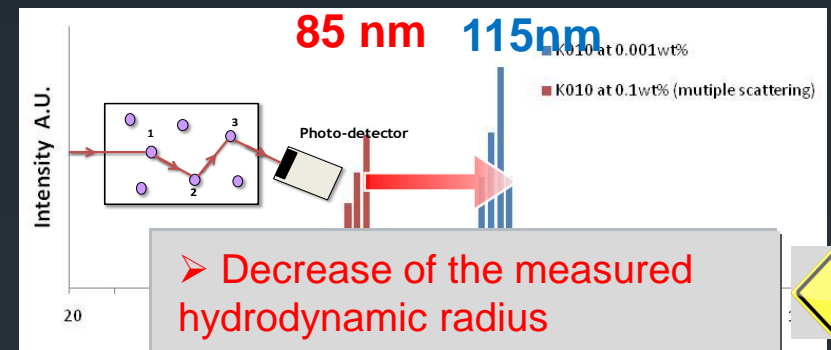


➤ Measurement of concentrated samples

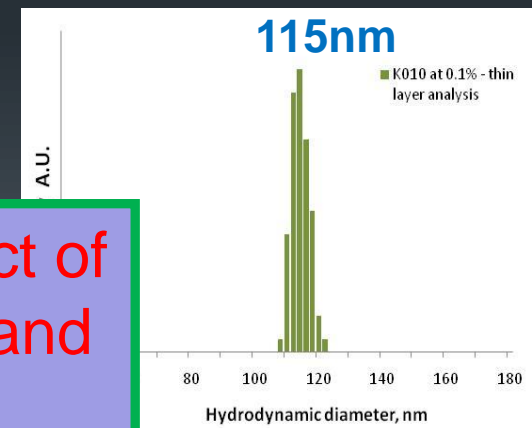


A standard polystyrene latex ($\varnothing=100\text{nm}$ by TEM) measured at 0.1 wt%

Without DTC



With DTC



DTC reduces impact of multiple scattering and light absorption

Dedicated software



Optical unit

- Fast acquisition electronics
- APD detector
- Laser source

Control unit

- computer
- power supply

Optical fiber umbilical

In situ remote probe

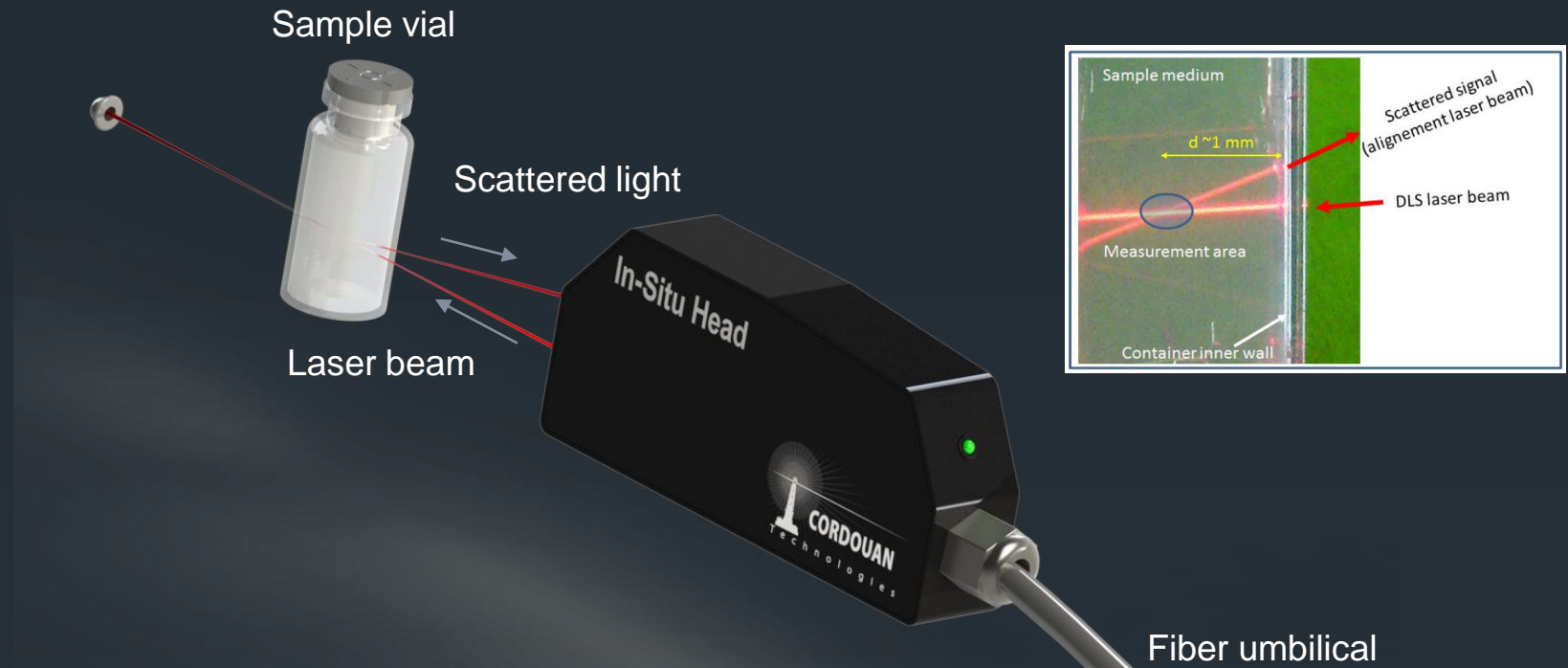


In situ head concept: the power of DLS, the flexibility of Optical fiber

A change of paradigm: “bring your measurement to your process!”



- Non invasive, no need to bath the sample
- Adjustable working distance /scattering angle
- Alignment laser for easy installation
- High accuracy remote temperature sensor
- Easy maintenance
- Ideal for measurements in glass capillaries, or in situ



Features:

- Non invasive
- Small footprint
- Adjustable working distance /scattering angle
- Alignment laser for easy installation
- High accuracy remote temperature sensor
- Flexibility and upgradability : easy switch between options
- Easy maintenance
- Ideal for measurements in glass capillaries, or in situ

Application Examples

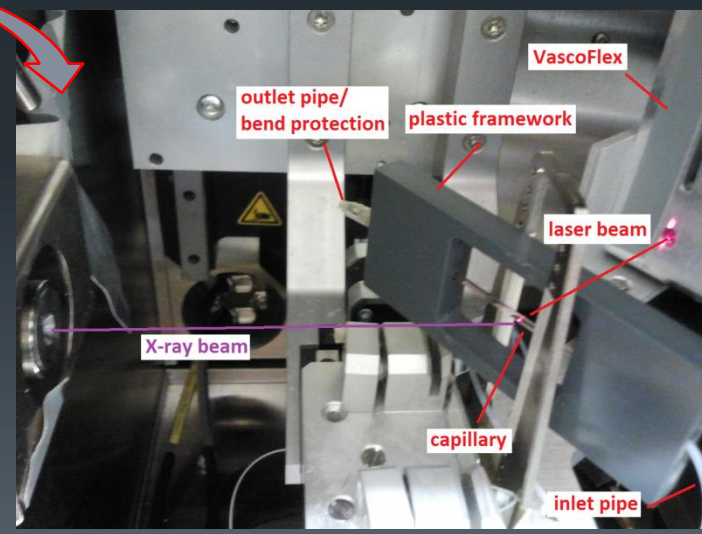
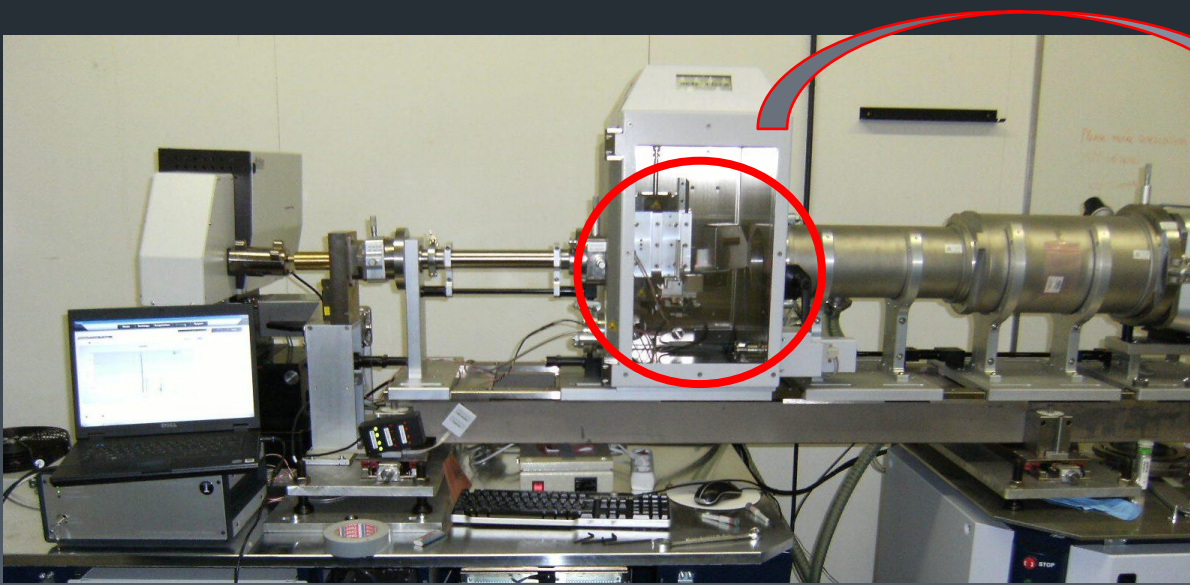
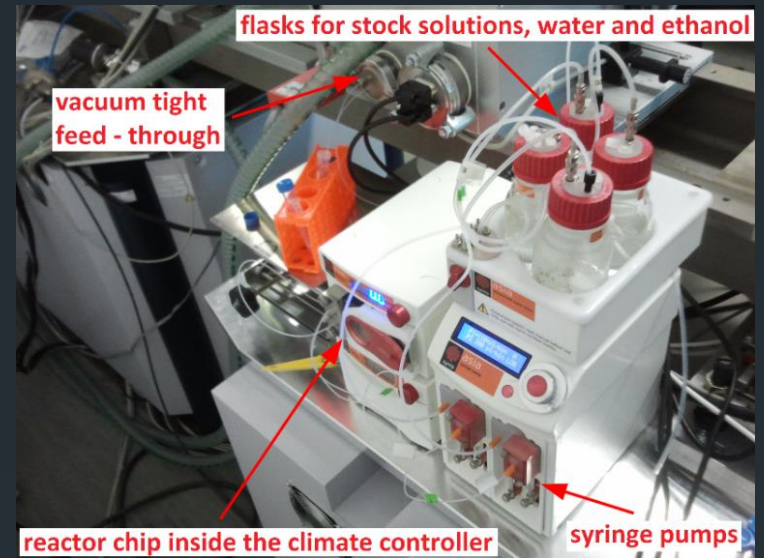
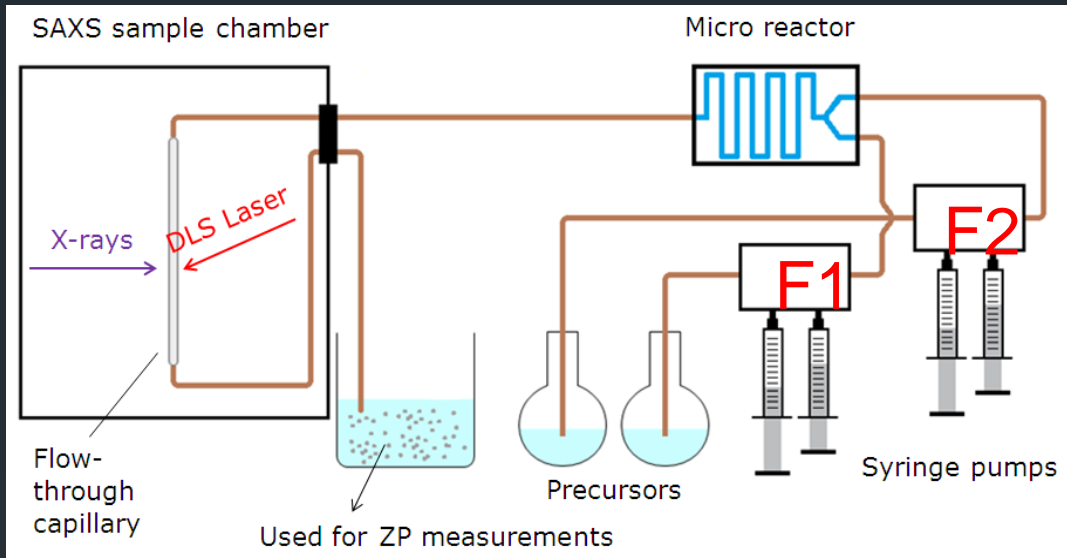
Example 1

**Combined Remote DLS & High flux SAXS
for NPs synthesis monitoring**

SNOW CONTROL FP7 Project

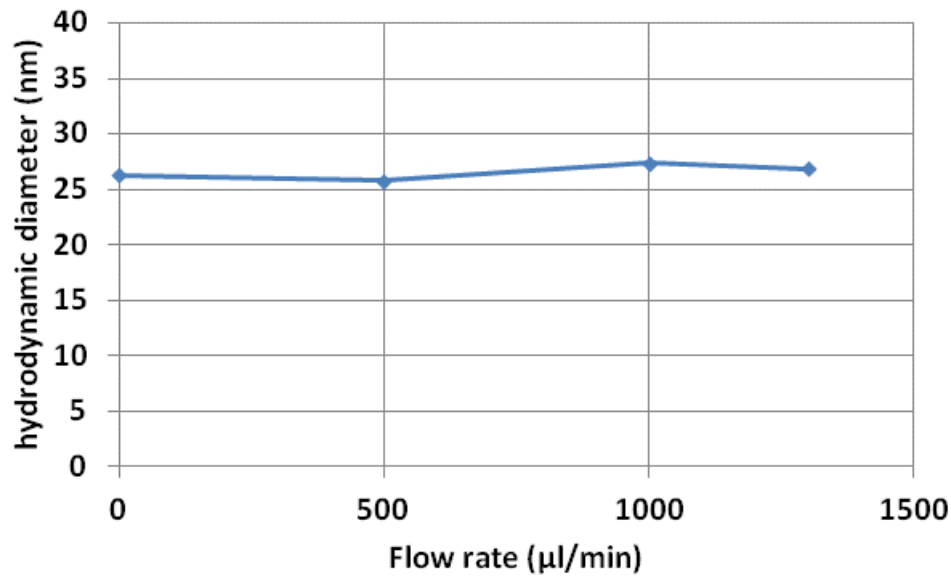


Combined Remote DLS & High flux SAXS for NPs synthesis monitoring

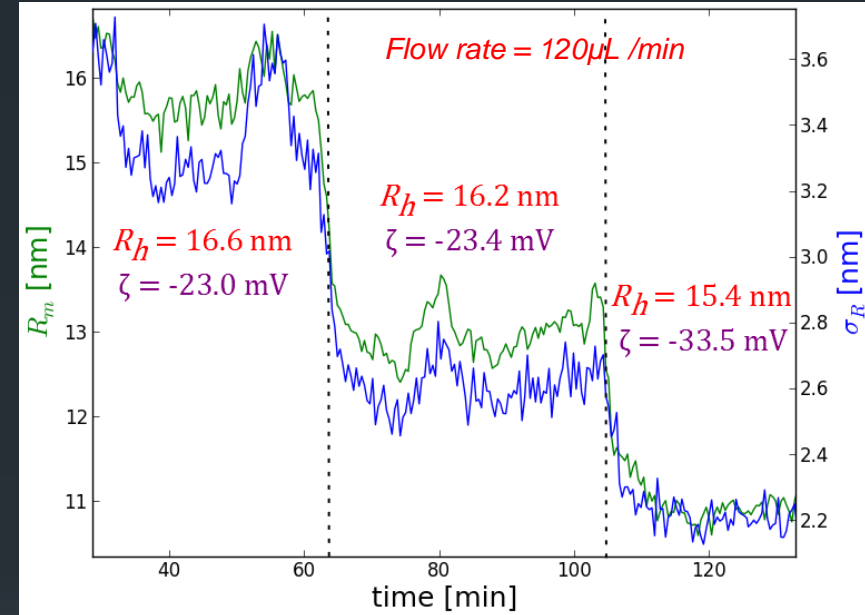


Hydrolysis –condensation method : TEOS in Ethanol (F1) + NH₃ in H₂O (F2)

Impact of flow rate (F1+F2)



Impact on precursors mixing ratio (F1/F2)



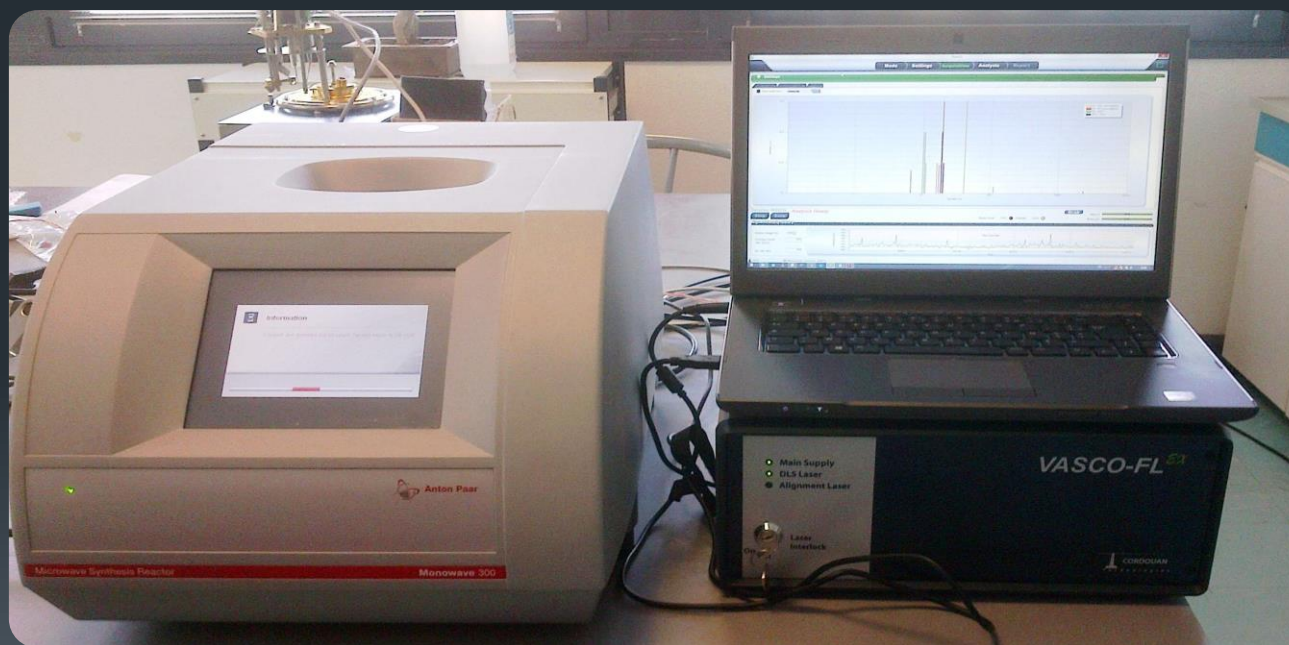
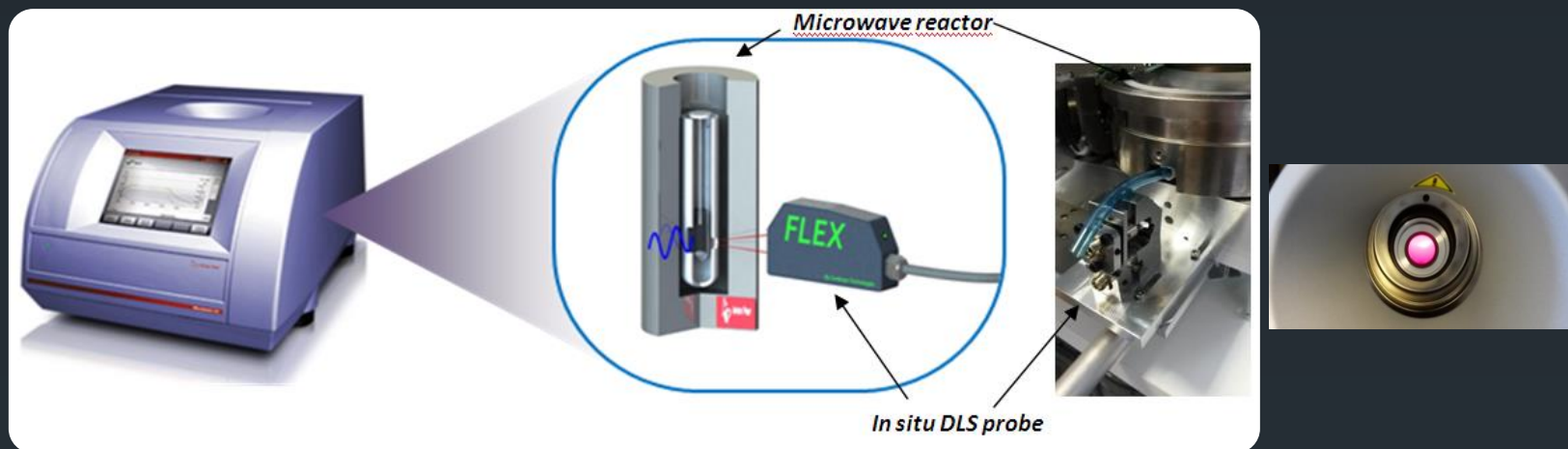
- Consistent results between SAXS and DLS measurements
- Allow to track and tune synthesis process in an accurate way

Example 2

**In situ kinetics monitoring
of Microwave assisted NPs synthesis**



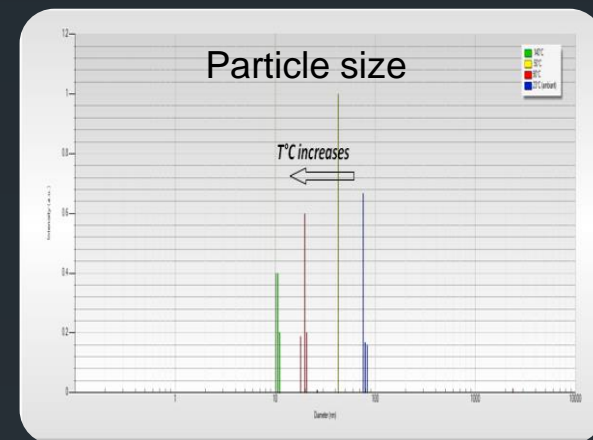
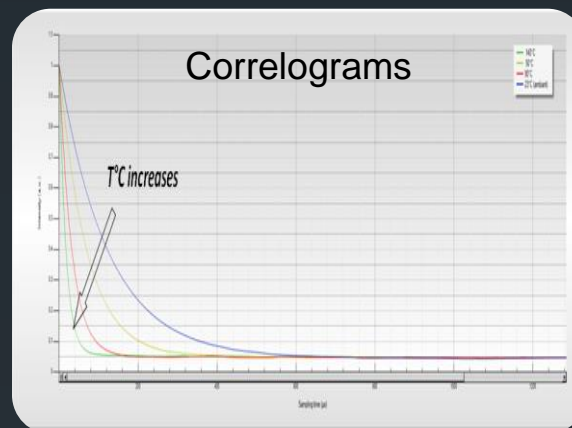
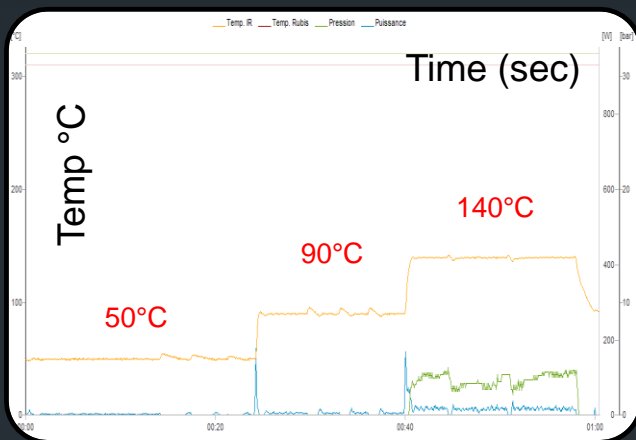
In situ kinetics monitoring of Microwave assisted NPs synthesis



- In situ DLS successfully integrated into a commercial microwave reactor
- Under test and qualification at the College de France-Paris

Real-time & In situ monitoring of Microwave assisted NPs synthesis

Validation tests done on SiO₂ slurries



True temperature	Corresponding Viscosity (cP)	Corrected Averaged size (nm)
50°C	0.55	76
90°C	0.3	72
140°C	0.196*	68

- Very consistent and reproducible results
- 1st demonstration ever done opening up new possibility on NP synthesis monitoring

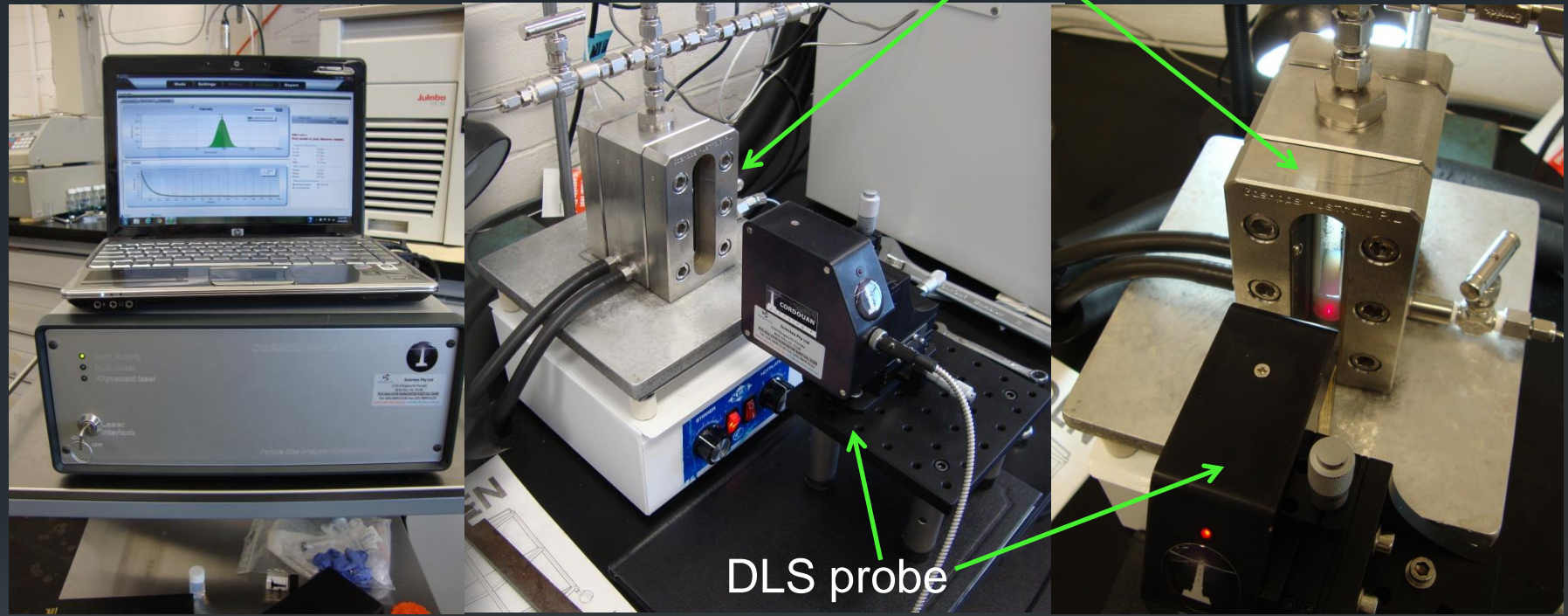
Example 3

Particle Size Measurement inside supercritical CO₂ synthesis reactor



Particle Size Measurement inside supercritical CO₂ synthesis reactor

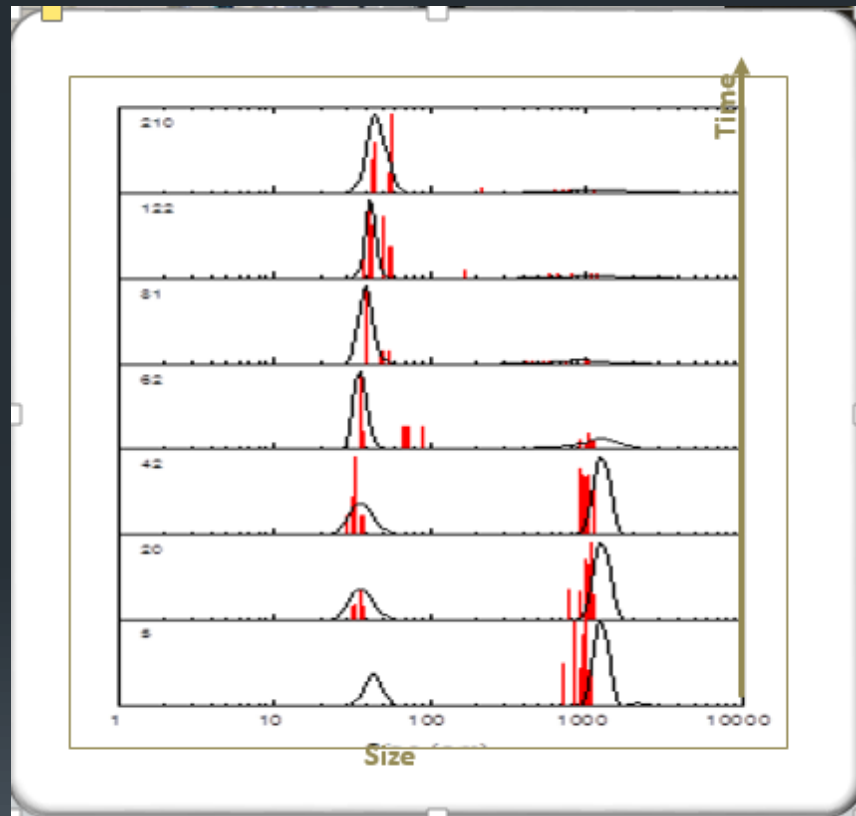
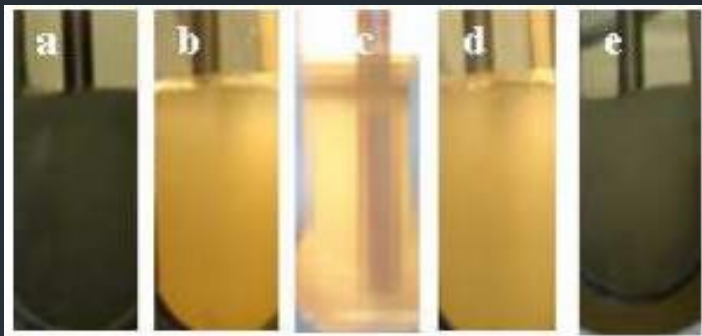
Reactor (100 bars, 40°C)



DLS probe

Particle Size Measurement in supercritical CO₂ synthesis reactor

- 10 wt% styrene rel. to system, 10 wt% Dowfax 8390 (surfactant) rel. to monomer, 8 wt% Hexa Decane rel. to styrene
- Sonicated for 10 min, 65% input intensity
- CO₂ is used to control the size of nano-emulsion droplets



- Use DLS measurements to correlate turbidity variation with particle size
- Implement accurate control of the size of monomer droplets/NP

Example 4

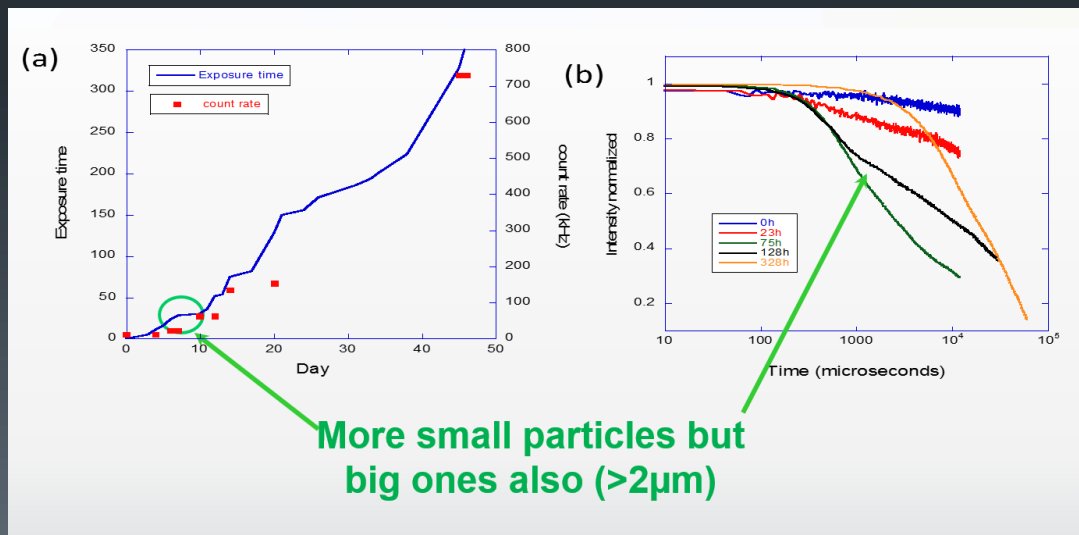
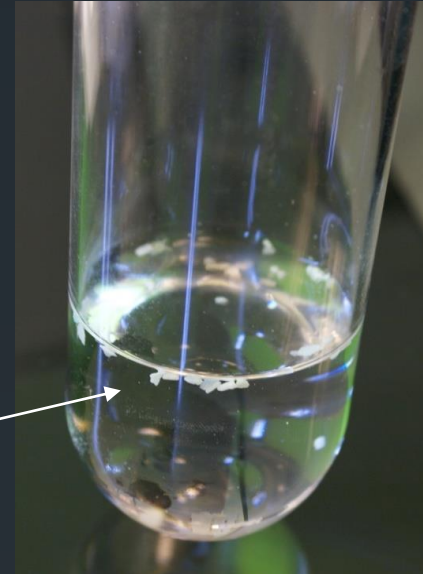
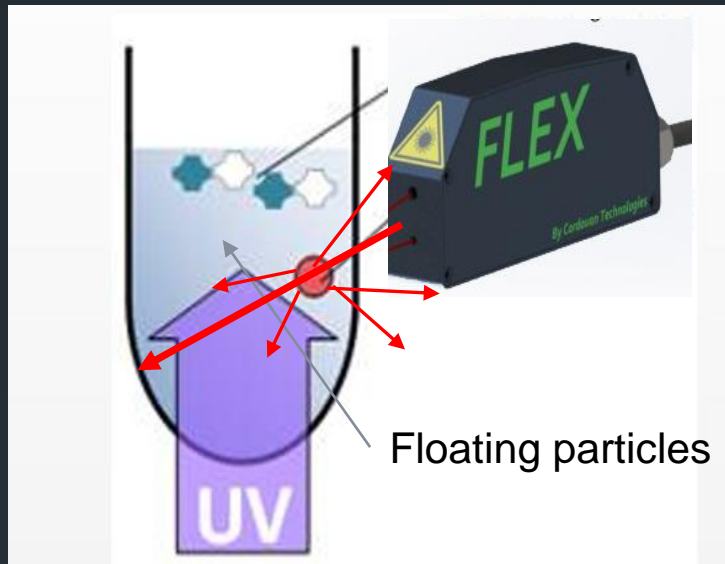
Environmental application: Nano Plastic detection in
Ocean water



**EXPÉDITION
7^e CONTINENT**

Environmental study : Evidence of Plastic Nps in Ocean

Lab study of Plastic NPs formation under oceanic like UV insolation conditions

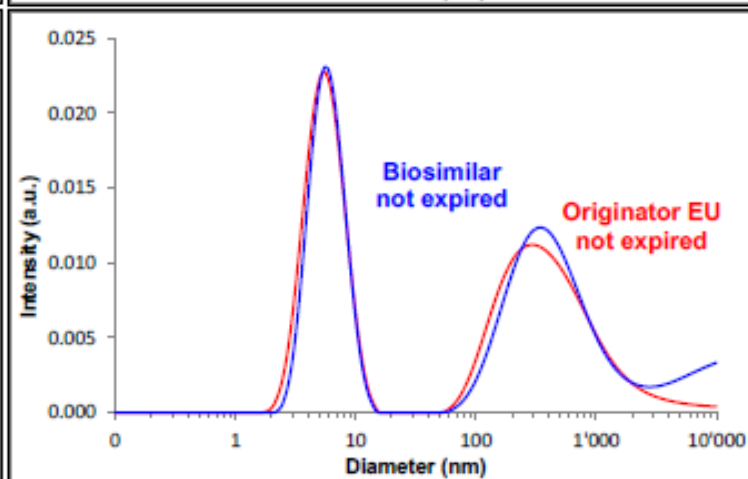
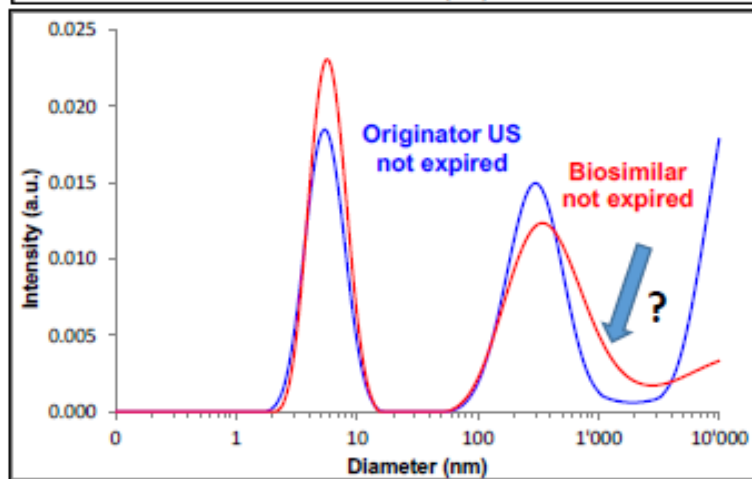
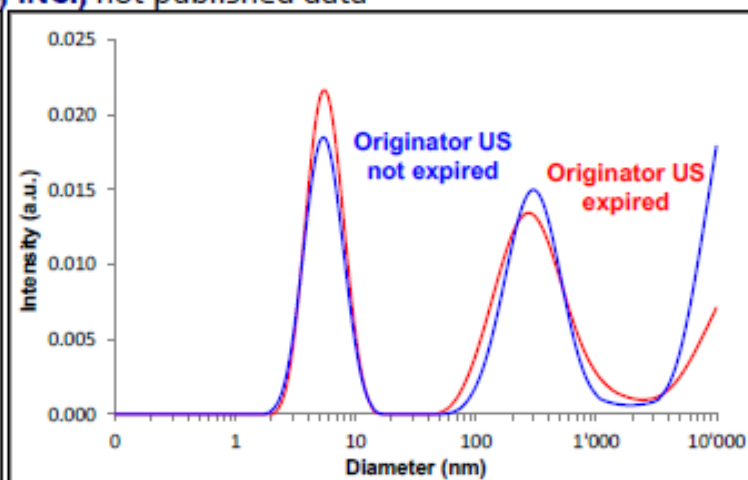
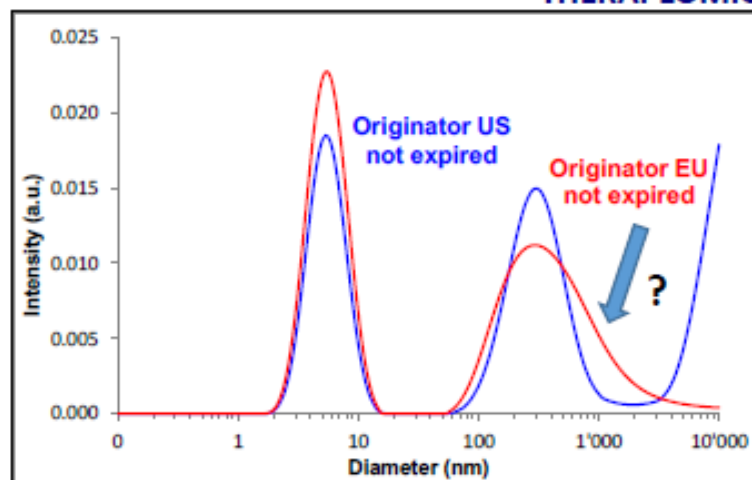


Example 5

Measurement in Bio pharma injectable



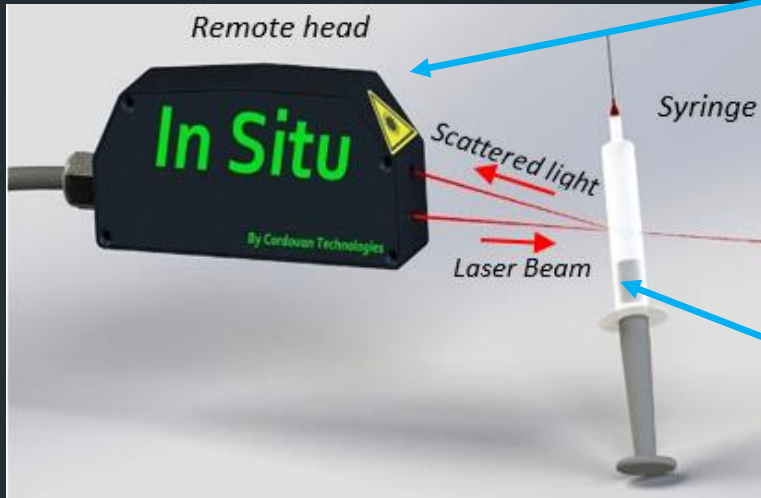
THERAPEOMIC, INC., not published data



	Intensity mode		Number mode
	∅ (nm) Peak 1	∅ (nm) Peak 2	∅ (nm) Peak 1
Originator US not expired	5.4 ± 0.1	299 ± 27	2.7 ± 0.2
Originator EU not expired	5.4 ± 0.1	293 ± 11	2.7 ± 0.2
Biosimilar not expired	5.7 ± 0.1	340 ± 27	3.2 ± 0.2
Biosimilar expired	5.8 ± 0.2	306 ± 38	3.1 ± 0.4
Originator US expired	5.5 ± 0.2	262 ± 37	3.0 ± 0.1

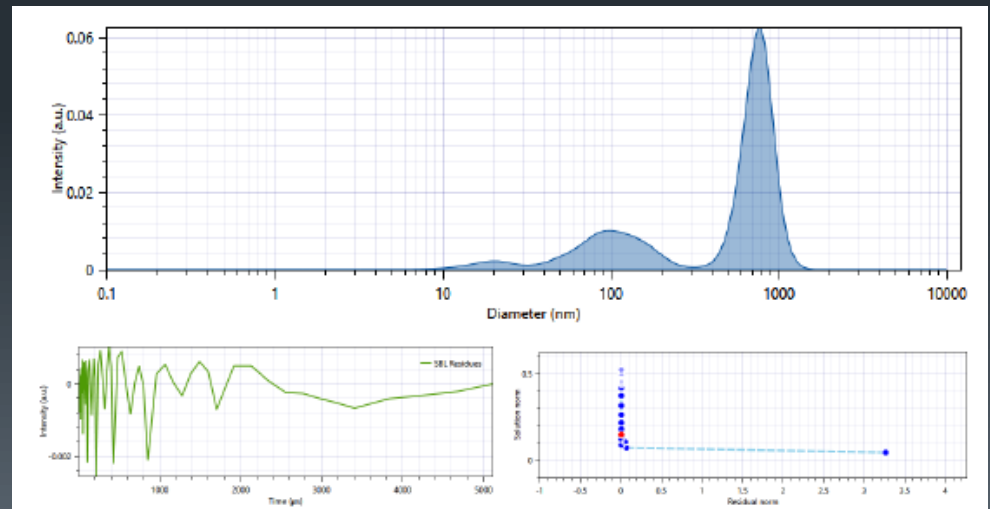
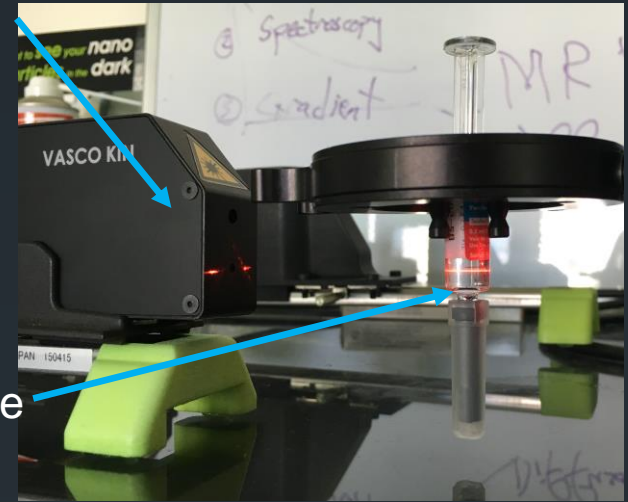
Darpin, G., Poirier, E., Arvinte, T. (2018) not published data

Preliminary measurements on Flow injectable vaccines



Remote probe

Injectable syringe

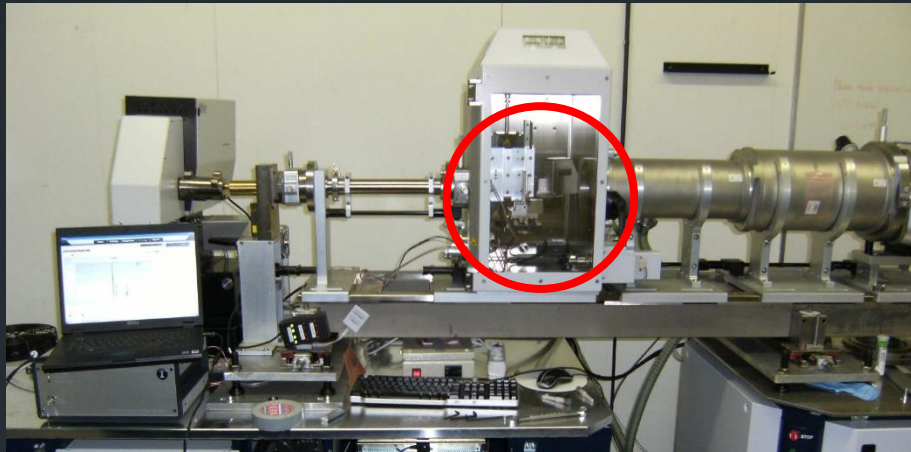


Other examples...

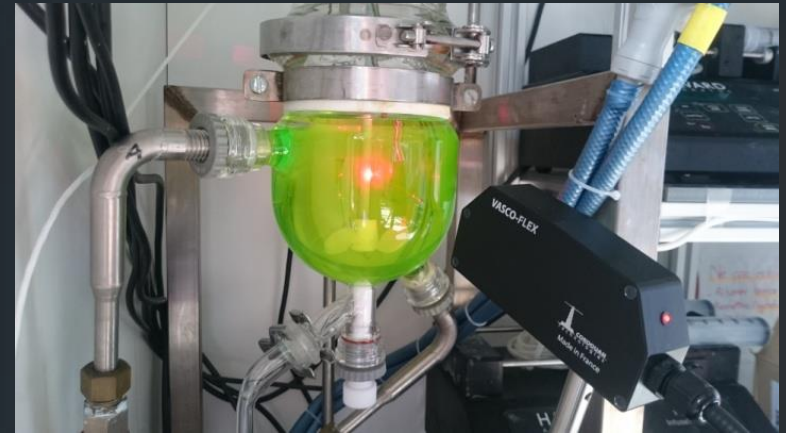


Examples of instrumental coupling

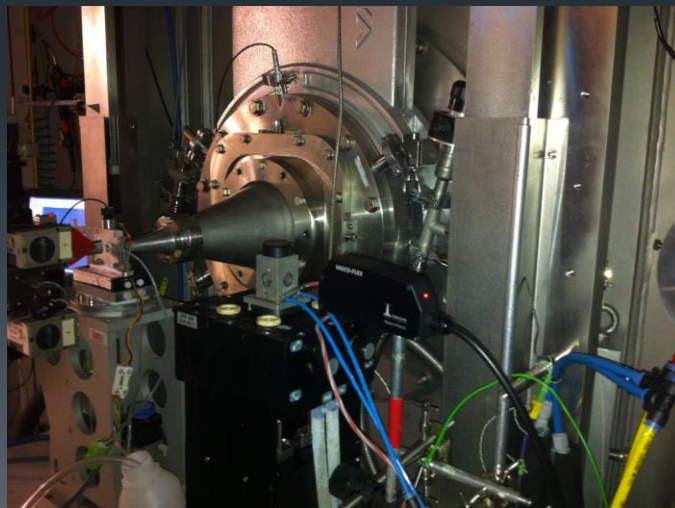
with SAXS instrument



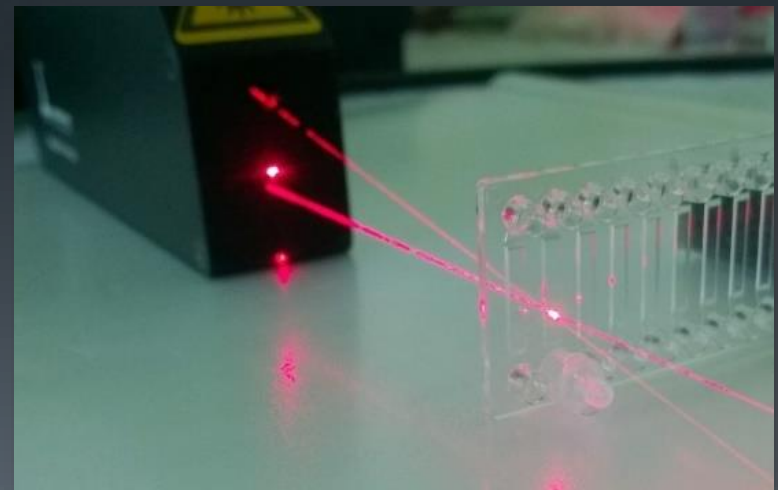
with crystallization reactors



With SANS/SAXS Lines



to μ fluidics chips



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